

FIRE DETECTION UPDATE

The 1st February has now passed. This was, as you may know, the deadline for residents in Scotland to change over to interlinked fire detection.

On Friday, 21 January, the Scottish Government noted:

"Improving fire safety remains an important priority for both national and local government. The legislation provides flexibility for people to fit the necessary alarms in due course if they are unable to do so by the February 2022 deadline. As a result, local authorities will be taking a proportionate and measured approach to compliance taking individual circumstances into account as well as reflecting the evolving situation with the Covid-19 pandemic. No one will be criminalised if they need more time, and there are no penalties for non-compliance".

Care & Repair South Lanarkshire have been installing Government-funded and privately-funded compliant fire detection across both North and South Lanarkshire for a few months now and have so far assisted over 500 clients with funded and self-funded fire detection installations.

FUNDING FROM SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

We received £51,000 last year from the Scottish Government via Care & Repair Scotland to assist eligible clients across Lanarkshire to install compliant wireless fire detectors at no cost.

In early January we reached the limit of clients that we would be able to help with the funds available and had to close the funded fire detection project until additional funds were found.

We now understand that the Scottish Government has agreed to fund a further £500,000 worth of fire detection installs across Scotland for eligible clients. This fund will again be administered by Care & Repair Scotland and we hope to find out what our allocation is this time very soon.

Once we know what money we have available, we will be able to take new bookings from clients for the funded installations. We will advertise how to apply for this across our social media and through our partners.

Eligible clients for funded fire detection:

Owner occupier (not rented) resident in Lanarkshire
Council tax band **A to C**

You *must also be in receipt of one or more* of the following benefits:

- ⇒Income Support.
- ⇒Jobseekers Allowance (income-based)
- ⇒Employment and Support Allowance (income-related)
- ⇒Pension Credit (guarantee credit)
- ⇒Universal Credit

SELF-FUNDED FIRE DETECTION

We received a huge number of requests for assistance from clients to help them install compliant fire detection at a reasonable cost.

At the end of January, we received notice from our supplier that they would not be able to honour our orders.

Due to this, we decided not to continue to increase our waiting list until we are able to ensure that we had a supply of fire detection devices in place to meet the demand. This resulted in us temporarily closing this service.

Once we can be sure that we can get a secure supply of suitable fire detection devices, we will reopen the service again and take on new clients.

Clients eligible for assistance from Care and Repair for self-funded installation:

- * Owner occupier living in Lanarkshire
- * Aged 60 or over
- * Any age living with a physical or mental disability

We would be delighted to hear from individuals or agencies with requests for assistance or from anyone who has a suggestion for a project that would suit Care and Repair and be of value to residents in South Lanarkshire.

Please call us on 01555 666200 or email us at enquiries@careandrepair-sl.co.uk or write to us at 6a Hope Street, Lanark ML11 7LZ

Additional information can be found on our web site www.careandrepair-sl.co.uk

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