

# Assisted Living Technology Catalogue

**CS** Development Team

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It should be noted that this catalogue contains information from, and links to, external websites. London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority shall not be responsible or liable in any way for the content of any external websites, including the accuracy or relevance of information contained on such websites.

Equally, London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority make no warranty towards nor endorses in any way the companies or products in this catalogue, which are examples only.

Easy Reference Guide: Look at the 'factors' and at the corresponding tools									
Key (1) Item Number • Recommended Sensors • Suggested Additional Sensors	Bed/Chair Bound	smoker/evidenc e of burn marks	Dementia	Mental Health	Falls Management	Frail & Vulnerable	Hearing Impairment	Mobility Problems	Visual Impairment
Access/ Carer Trigger (1)	0		0	0	0	0		0	<b>A</b>
Bed Occupancy Sensor (2)	0		0	0	0			0	
Big Button Phone (3)							0	<b>A</b>	0
Chair Occupancy Sensor (2)	0		0	0	0			0	0
Clip on Ashtray with Remote Tube (5)		0							
Clocks and Calendars (6)			0	0					
CO Detector			0	0					
CO Detector (specialist) (4)							0		0
Detectors to turn off electric cooker (7)			0	0					
Falls Detectors (8)	<b>A</b>				0			0	<b>A</b>
Fire Retardant Bedding (9)		0							
Fire Retardant Nightwear (11)		0							
Fire Retardant Spray (12)		0							
Fire Retardant Throws (10)		0							
Gas Cut Off Valve (13)			0	0		0		0	
Gas Detector (14)			0	0				0	
Heat Detector (15)	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0
Induction Hob (16)			0	0					_
Kitchen Timer (17)			0	0					
Metal Waste Bin (18)		0	0	0					0
Object Locator (19)			0	0					0
Tactile Markings (20)									0
Pendant Alarm (21)	0		0	0	0	0	<b>A</b>	0	0
PenFriend Audio Labeller (22)									0
Pill Organiser & Dossett Boxes (23)			0	0					
Safety Ashtrays (24)		0							
Smoke Alarms (25)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Smoke Alarms (specialist)(26)							0		0
Smoker's Fire Retardant Apron (27)		0							
Sounder Beacon (28)							0		<b>A</b>
Stovetop/Cooker Shut off Device (29)			0	0		<b>A</b>		0	0
Temperature Monitor (30)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
User Alert Pager (31)							0		
Visual Call Beacon (32)							0		<b>A</b>
Voice Record Reminder Sensor (33)			0	0					
Wi-Safe Remote Warning Handset (34)							0		
Water Suppression Systems (35)	0	0	0	0	0		<b>A</b>		<b>A</b>
Wheelchair Access to Ovens (36)								0	

## Introduction to Assistive Technology

Assistive technology is the name given to products and services which can help support the independence, wellbeing and safety of individuals by allowing them to perform a task that they would otherwise be unable to do (or increase the ease and safety with which such tasks can be performed).

There is a link between the profile of individuals that require assistive technology and an increase in the risk of fire. In the course of a home fire safety visit, it might be felt that the resident would benefit from further assistance, especially in the prevention or in the event of fire. This catalogue has been produced as a reference guide so that advice can be given to the resident or their carer on how to address the risk(s) identified. The options listed in this catalogue will help to assist in preventing fire; to detect a fire if one occurs; or to assist the individual to escape or to allow them to be rescued. An item, or a combination of items could also help an individual remain in their own home for longer.

The layout of this catalogue addresses the factors that put an individual at greater risk of a fire, and lists what items are available to reduce the risk specific to that person (see pages 2-5)

As mentioned above, there are certain factors that may put an individual at an increased risk of fire, or impede their escape:

- Limited mobility
- · Cognitive issues such as dementia
- Mental health issues such as schizophrenia
- Smoking

And/or:

• People who have had a fire or fires in their home before

In many cases such individuals may already be known to partner agencies. Therefore, by working in partnership with agencies such as social services, mental health teams and local authorities, Brigade staff can highlight intervention measures to be put in place. It must be remembered that carers are often best-placed to identify the areas of highest risk to the individual.

This catalogue is to be used to guide the user as to what warning signs of fire to look out for and which technologies are available to reduce risk. The Easy Reference Guide on the previous page allows you to select the factor (s) that make an individual vulnerable and look at the corresponding technologies that are available. It may be necessary to look at nore than one section e.g. if an individual is both bedbound and a smoker.

Examples of brands available are given, along with an estimated costs. It should be noted that some items do not have a price listed. This is because they are not standalone items, they are components of a system that is linked to a central control centre. Therefore prices can vary greatly.

It should be noted that LFB are unable to fund most of the items listed within this catalogue, with the exception of smoke alarms and fire retardant bedding (in accordance with Policy number 832 – Fire Retardant Bedding hotwire/policies/media/832.pdf - 2013-10-15 policy). Therefore it needs to be made clear that the resident/housing provider would need to bear the costs.

LFB supports the wider health sector's aim to help people remain in their own homes, safely and for longer, helping individuals retain their independence for at long as they possibly can. This catalogue of assistive technologies hopes to assist in the delivery of this aim by supplying information on such technologies and those who would benefit.

#### **Fire Risk Indicators**

Here are some of the warning signs in certain locations within the house which may indicate that a person could be at a higher risk of having a fire in their home:

Kitchen Burnt pans or cooking

Paper or rubbish stored around the cooker hob

Lounge Retreating to use one room (e.g. someone is using the sofa to sleep on at night)

Bedroom Smoking in bed

Burn marks on bedding or carpets

Old or damaged electric blanket in use

Paper or rubbish stored around the heat sources such as electric fire/heater

All rooms Overloaded electrical sockets

Burn marks on carpet or furniture

Storage around electrical intake and meter

Electric or gas heaters close to storage, furniture, clothes drying

Paper or rubbish stored around the heat sources such as electric fire/heater

Burn marks or discarded cigarettes on carpets and furniture.

Overfilled ashtrays

Unsafe use of candles (e.g. no candle holders)

Paper or rubbish stored around the heat sources such as electric fire/heater

The person Burn marks on self or clothes

#### Safeguarding

Any member of Brigade staff who has concerns about an adult or a child at risk must act on this, 'doing nothing' is not an option.

If it is thought that there is a vulnerable adult at risk, the matter would automatically become a safeguarding adults at risk issue and should be dealt with accordingly:

Policy number 736 – Safeguarding adults at risk. <a href="http://hotwire/policies/media/736.pdf">http://hotwire/policies/media/736.pdf</a>

If it is thought that there is a vulnerable child at risk (under the age of 18), the matter would automatically become a child protection issue and should be dealt with accordingly:

Policy number 305 – Safeguarding children <a href="http://hotwire/policies/media/305.pdf">http://hotwire/policies/media/305.pdf</a>

#### Serious Outstanding Risk

When looking at warning signs of fire and the solutions available, it may become apparent that anindividual falls within our Serious Outstanding Risk (SOR) procedure. The fire risk needs to be addressed and/or a Welfare Referral needs to be made. In general terms, a SOR is something out of the ordinary or unexpected, with the potential to cause adverse impact to the person(s) affected.

For more information, please refer to:

http://edms/bwd/Safety/CommunitySafety/CS%20projects/SOR%20Flowchart.docx

## **Assisted Living Technologies**

This section gives an overview of the assistive living technologies available that are listed at the beginning of this catalogue. For each product there is a description of use, brand examples and approximate costs, where available.

## 1. Access/Carer Trigger



It allows authorised carers to access a user's property once an alarm call has been raised and the need for on site help has been determined, without the need to locate a keyholder, thereby reducing the time to get help to a user.

**Example of a product**: Tunstall **Approximate price:** Available on application

www.tunstall.co.uk/solutions/products

## 2. Bed & Chair Occupancy Alarms



The alarm provides an early warning by alerting that the user has left their bed and not returned within a preset time period, indicating a possible fall. They raise alerts allowing trained operators/carers to take appropriate actions and can be tailored to suit individual needs. The bed/chair sensor controller can also be set up to automatically turn on lights to minimise the risk of a fall when the person gets out of bed.

**Example of product:** Tunstall **Approximate price:** Available on

application

www.tunstall.co.uk/solutions/products

## 3. Big Buttons Phone



It has large, easy to read buttons and 3 x one touch memory buttons, handsfree, amplify feature to aid those with visual and/or hearing impairments, to make calls, be able to hear and be heard on the line.

**Example of a product:** BT Big Button

Corded Phone

Approximate price: £ 30.00

www.shop.bt.com/

## 4. (Specialist) Carbon Monoxide Alarm



Example of a product: B143 Bellman Visit 868 Carbon Monoxide (available via the Action Hearing Loss website) – to be used in conjunction with Bellman Visit paging system. It will alert your chosen receiver if it detects dangerous levels of carbon monoxide.

www.bellman.com

Carbon Monoxide alarms for the hearing impaired should to be connected with either radioLINK mains alarm panel which includes strobe and vibrator, a pager and charger, a wrist receiver, or a Wi-safe remote warning handset to alert the user that the detector has been activated. The type of additional device will depend on the make of the alarm. The detector is not for fire but may actuate in the event of a fire.

Approximate price: £ 100.00

## 5. Clip-on Ashtray with Remote Tube



The cigarette is always held over the ashtray and the smoker uses the tube with mouthpiece to smoke. The ashtray has two clips which snap onto the wheelchair, armchair etc. Security rubber rings snap over the ends of clips to lock the unit in place. Even if the person falls asleep the cigarette and ashes will fall into the ashtray. This helps to reduce fire hazards.

**Example of Product**: Patterson Medical

Approximate price: £ 20.00

www.pattersonmedical.co.uk/app.aspx

## 6. Clocks and Calendars



Automatic calendar clocks which show the date and day of the week can be helpful for people with a cognitive condition such as memory loss. A clock that shows whether it is evening or morning can prevent disorientation, particularly during light summer evenings.

**Example of product:** Daily Clock.com

**Approximate price:** £50.00

www.helpfulthings.co.uk/collections/all

## 7. Detectors to Turn off an Electric Cooker



Useful for those with instances of forgetfulness rooted in cognitive issues. These detectors are designed to turn off an electric cooker if it is left on and work by turning the cooker off after a pre-set time and/or when they sense a certain temperature. These detectors must be fitted by an electrician.

**Example of the product:** Electric Cooker

Guard & Monitor by Stt Condigi **Approximate price:** £350.00

http://www.tunstall.co.uk/solutions/products

## 8. Falls Detectors



Suitable for those with conditions such as epilepsy or diabetes who get little or no warning of an attack. These devices are designed to send an alert via the community alarm base unit when they detect movement, orientation and impact indicating a fall.

**Example of Product:** Tunstall **Approximate Price:** £ 140.00

http://www.tunstall.co.uk/solutions/products

## 9. Fire Retardant Bedding



Careless disposal of smoking materials is the most common cause of fire deaths in London.

Fire retardant bedding is a replacement for existing bedding and reduces the risk of fire starting on a bed, should a cigarette or match be dropped.

**Example of product:** Thomas Kneale **Approximate price:** £70.00 (double set);

£40.00 (single set)

www.thomaskneale.co.uk

## 10. Fire Retardant Furniture Throws



Whilst the ideal is that everyone should have furniture that complies with Furniture and Furnishings regulations, many individuals won't. Therefore if Fire retardant furniture throws are used to cover the settee, armchairs and chairs to protect against a fire starting on the furniture. However, like fire retardant bedding, a fire retardant throw is not a fire proof item and does not remove the risk of fire entirely, it only reduces the risk.

**Example of product:** Thomas Kneale **Approximate price:** £20.00 (single);

£30.00 (double)

www.thomaskneale.co.uk

## 11. Fire Retardant Nightwear



Fire retardant nightwear protects against a fire starting on clothing should a cigarette or match be dropped whereas standard materials can be highly flammable. Like fire retardant bedding and fire retardant throws, fire retardant nightwear is not a fire proof item and does not remove the risk of fire entirely, it only reduces the risk.

**Example of product:** Thomas Kneale **Approximate price:** £15.00 (Pyjama); £10.00 (nightdress)

www.thomaskneale.co.uk

## 12. Fire Retardant Sprays



Fire retardant sprays come in the forms of an aerosol or in a hand pump bottle. They are applied directly onto soft furniture such as settees and chairs, curtains and carpet to give the fabric flame retardant properties. The amount required depends on the area to be covered

**Example of Product:** Eco-sol

Approximate price: £ 15.00 (FR Spray

750ml Bottle)

www.fireproofspray.co.uk

## 13. Gas Cut off Valve



Suitable for people experiencing certain cognitive issues, such as dementia. This device when used in conjunction with a gas leak detector can shut down the supply. Many newer cookers will automatically cut the gas off if the flames are not ignited. However, if the oven or hob do not do this, the valve can be used to lock the gas cooker temporarily.

Example of the product: Clesse

Automatic Cut Off Valve **Approximate price:** £60.00

www.clesse.co.uk

#### 14. Gas Detector



Suitable for people experiencing certain cognitive issues, such as dementia. A gas detector will sound an alert if natural gas, for instance coming from an un-ignited hob, is detected. It can be used in conjunction with a gas cut off valve to shut down the supply. The most widely used version also includes a carbon monoxide detector for increased safety. It is important to note that these devices are only triggered by dangerous levels of gas, but an unlit hob left onwill take some time to reach the point where a gas detector will be triggered.

Example product: Gas detector by Mercury

Approximate price: £15.00

Available on <a href="www.amazon.co.uk">www.amazon.co.uk</a> and a range of other suppliers

#### 15. Heat Detector



Heat alarms are not a replacement for smoke alarms, but are better suited in areas where the regular presence of smoke and dust may cause false alarms such as in kitchens. Please note, that they are triggered by the large amount of heat output from a fire and are not suitable for detection of early products of combustion.

**Example of product:** Dicon H380i Battery Powered Interconnectable Heat

Alarm

Approximate price: £ 15.00

www.brk.co.uk

#### 16. Induction Hob



**NB:** People with implanted cardiac pacemakers or other electronic medical implants may be advised by their doctors to avoid proximity to induction cooking surfaces and other sources of magnetic fields. Therefore this product is not recommended to these people.

Suitable for people experiencing certain cognitive issues, such as dementia, induction cookers are safer than gas or traditional electric hobs. This is because they have no flames and the hob itself only reaches the temperature of the saucepan, and the pan is the only thing that becomes hot. They provide the same degree of controllability as gas cookers, but they will automatically turn off after a pan is removed from the hob. Most timers can be set to turn the hob off after a pre-set specified period of time. Please note that induction hobs require metal based pans, such as stainless steel or cast iron.

**Example product:** Lakeland Digital Induction Hob for single pan **Approximate price:** £100.00

www.lakeland.co.uk/Homepage.action

## 17. Kitchen Timer



A kitchen timer can be used to remind the user to turn an appliance off, thereby aiding prevention of kitchen fires. Kitchen timers (digital and mechanical) can be an invaluable aid for people with cognitive issues such as dementia. The example given here has a clear, easy to read display and includes an audio function that gives a verbal indication of the time set and when the required time has been reached.

**Example of product**: Talking Digital Timer

and Alarm Clock

**Approximate price**: £15.00

Available on <a href="www.amazon.co.uk">www.amazon.co.uk</a> and a range of other suppliers

#### 18. Metal Waste Bin



This is ideal for heavy or careless smokers. It is non combustible and could reduce the likelihood of fire in instances of disposable of smoking materials that have not been fully extinguished.

**Note:** Ensure that the inner bucket is fire proof, e.g. metal and that no bin liner is used

**Example of product:** Stainless Steel

Waste Bin

Approximate price: £15.00

www.globalmarket.com

## 19. Object Locator



Designed to solve the problem of mislaid household items such as keys and remote controls. It is particularly helpful for people with impaired memory or vision. The sensor unit is attached to the item in question and works with the transmitter unit to enable the user to find it by emitting a series of beeps. The transmitter is normally kept in a cradle and will beep occasionally if it is left out, reminding the user to return it to the cradle.

**Example of product:** Doro MemoryPlus

335

Approximate price: £30.00

www.handtec.co.uk

## 20. Oven/Cooker/Microwave Tactile Markings



Tactile markings are designed for people with visual impairments. Placed on or near crucial areas such as any control panel, they can make it easier to use the item. They are available as stick-on dots, as adhesive tapes, and in bright or fluorescent colours. Braille self adhesive markers are also available.

**Example of product:** Tacti-Mark **Approximate price:** £ 5.00

www.shop.rnib.org.uk

## 21. Pendant Alarm



Suitable for older people and people with mobility issues. Pressing the button on the pendant will send a radio signal to the alarm base unit, which in turn will immediately connect to the central call centre. The operator and the service user will then talk via the microphone and speaker built into the alarm unit. The operator can confirm that help is on its way. The service is active 24/7.

It is advisable to have a linked smoke alarm as there have been many fires where the individual has not activated their personal pendant. This has been due to them being unconscious as a consequence of smoke inhalation or because they were slow to react as a result of cognitive issues they were experiencing. There have also been a number of examples of pendants being <a href="https://www.ageuk.org.uk/products">www.ageuk.org.uk/products</a> www.telecare.co.uk

## 22. PenFriend Audio Labeller



This enables people with visual impairments to create customised labels for everyday household items and groceries and then to use these labels to identify the same items at a later date.

Example of product: RNIB PenFriend

audio labeller

Approximate price: £80.00

www.shop.rnib.org.uk

## 23. Pill Organiser & Dosette Boxes



Simple boxes for pills, with compartments for particular days of the week and times of day, help people experiencing certain cognitive issues to remember to take their medication at the right time. Automatic pill dispensers are also available. When the medication needs to be taken, the dispenser beeps and a small opening allows access to the particular pill. Thus the pill is likely to be taken at the right time and the correct dosage applied.

**Example of product:** Sabi Carafe And

Pill Holder

Approximate price: £ 15.00

www.livingmadeeasy.org.uk

## 24. Safety Ashtrays



To reduce the risk of fire the best ashtray type needs to be deep with a push down lid system that takes the finished cigarette, ash and/or match into the ashtray while automatically closing again.

Please note, someone with limited dexterity may not have enough strength to use such a product.

**Example of Product:** varies

**Approximate price:** £5.00 to £10.00

www.uberreview.com/2007/03/spin-ashtray.htm

## 25. Smoke Alarms



A working smoke alarm is essential for everyone. It provides vital early warning allowing time to escape if there is a fire. Every home should have a minimum of one smoke alarm per floor. Specialist alarms with additional features are available and may include features such as flashing strobe lights for those with hearing impairments, or the ability to send an alert to a pager or a call centre.

As part of an HFSV, London Fire Brigade will fit smoke alarms, where required.

**Example of a product:** FireAngel Easy To

Silence Smoke Alarm

Approximate price: £5.00

www.fireangel.co.uk

## 26. (Specialist) Smoke Alarm



Suitable for people with hearing impairments, this device is designed to activate the flashing light and/or the vibrating pad connected to it, giving extra vital early warning and extra time to escape in the event of fire. Contact Action on Hearing Loss (formerly RNID) for further information.

**Example of a product:** Fire Angel, Wi-Safe Ionisation Smoke Alarm WSI-601 to be used in conjunction with Wi-Safe Remote Warning Handset.

Approximate price: £20.00

www.fireangel.co.uk

## 27. Smoker's Fire Retardant Apron



The smoker's apron protects clothing and people from burns and can be an effective fire safety measure for those people with dementia and/or mobility concerns who smoke.

**Example of product:** Able2Wear **Approximate price:** £ 20.00

www.able2wear.co.uk

## 28. Sounder Beacon



The sounder beacon combines a visual warning together with a loud siren to alert people with hearing difficulties to a certain type of alarm activation such as a smoke alarm or an incoming phone call. Different colour versions of the sounder can be fitted in conjunction, allowing the user to differentiate between an alarm and a door entry call.

**Example of a product**: Tunstall **Approximate price:** Available on

application

www.tunstall.co.uk/solutions/products

## 29. Stovetop/Cooker Shut off Device



Suitable for people with cognitive behaviour. The device uses motion sensing when a person is cooking and automatically begins a countdown to shut off the cooker hob when it senses that the kitchen has been vacated. Similarly, when a person comes back into the kitchen to check on cooking it will automatically reset the countdown. It works on most hobs whether gas or electric. Wired and wireless versions are available.

**Example of the product:** Stove Guard **Approximate price:** price on application

www.alvolution.co.uk

## 30. Temperature Monitors



Suitable for vulnerable people who live alone. These are devices that monitor temperature and power cuts in homes. Of particular interest are those devices which have a SIM card inside which is used to send text message alerts, for instance rapid rise in temperature alert (i.e. for a fire) directly to family members/carers. Alerts can also be transmitted as email alerts or phone calls to a monitoring centre for Telecare.

**Example of product:** Envirotxt **Approximate price:** £ 100.00 p/a

www.tekview-solutions.com

## 31. User Alert Pager



The User Alert Pager provides hearing impaired users with immediate notification of alarm call activation, door entry calls and fire alarm activation.

**Example of a product**: Tunstall

Approximate price: Available on application

www.tunstall.co.uk/solutions/products

## 32. Visual Call Beacon



Suitable for people with hearing impairments. It provides a visual warning only in order to alert users to a certain type of alarm activation (e.g. smoke detector) or to an incoming phone call.

**Example of a product**: Tunstall **Approximate price:** Available on

application

www.tunstall.co.uk/solutions/products

## 33. Voice Record Reminder Sensor



Suitable for people experiencing cognitive behaviours such as dementia. When a person enters or leaves their home, a personal voice prompt recording can remind them to pick up their keys or lock the front door. The messages can be recorded so that the voice is of someone they know, such as a family member. Messages can also remind the person of their daily appointments, to tell them not to go out at night or provide reassurance, such as 'Turn the cooker off before you go to bed.'

Example of product: CTM-PIRK PIR with

CTM-2 Voice Alarm

Approximate price: £70.00

www.easylinkuk.co.uk

## 34. Wi-Safe Remote Warning Handset



Suitable for older people and/or people with disabilities. It responds to wireless signals from Wi-Safe smoke and/or carbon monoxide alarms. Once activated, these alarms alert the handset to the danger of fire or to the presence of carbon monoxide. The handset will sound and flash giving early warning and a better chance of escape. The removable handset doubles as an escape torch.

**Example of a product:** Fire Angel **Approximate price:** £ 30.00

www.fireangel.co.uk

## 35. Water Suppression Systems (sprinklers and water mist systems)



Suitable for vulnerable individuals at a higher risk of having a fire such as smokers, and those with impaired ability to respond appropriately for example due to physical and/or cognitive issues. Water suppression systems significantly lower the risk of death and serious injury from fire. This is done by helping to suppress a fire at an early stage, preventing it spreading, and minimising the water damage which is associated with traditional methods of fire suppression.

**Example of the product:** There are a variety of products available on the market which fit the user's needs.

Approximate price: £1,000 to £3,000 – This depends on the size of the property and the user's circumstances.

www.sprue.com/

## 36. Wheelchair Access to Appliances



The ideal height from the floor to the drop down door or pull out board will be unique to the user. If what is needed is not available on the market, REMAP volunteers design and can provide a tailor made piece to assist individual needs. For more information visit their website:

www.remap.org.uk

#### Additional Information/Useful Contacts

#### **Telecare**

Telecare is a service for vulnerable people to enable them to live independently at home. The service consists of sensors and alarms which once triggered, call for help and assistance from a monitored call centre. The call centre can contact a friend, relative or emergency response service to attend the home and assist if required.

The range of sensors available provide protection by monitoring for a number of risks such as fires, flooding, carbon monoxide, natural gas, high or low temperatures and human behaviours such as wandering, falling or inactivity. Such services can help people to maintain independence, increase their safety and confidence whilst continuing to live at home.

#### **UK Telehealthcare**

UK Telehealthcare is the new name of London Telecare. The only change under the new name is that their services are now offered across the UK. UK Telehealthcare is a membership based organisation for all Telecare and Telehealth professionals, service providers, clinical commissioning groups, registered social landlords and suppliers in the UK.

http://www.uktelehealthcare.com/ https://twitter.com/londontelecare

http://www.uktelehealthcare.com/contactus.asp

Contact: 0800 085 63 23

#### Age UK

Age Concern and Help the Aged have joined forces to become Age UK who aim to improve later life for everyone through their information and advice, services, campaigns, products, training and research. Public Policy, Public Affairs and their Campaigns Teams raise awareness of the situation faced by many older people and keep ageing issues in the public eye and on the agenda in parliament. <a href="http://www.ageuk.org.uk/">http://www.ageuk.org.uk/</a>

#### **Aidis Trust**

The Aidis Trust specialises in Assistive Technology for disabled people. They aim to help people, regardless of their disability overcome the barriers to access and communicate through assistive technology. Their free services are available to disabled people and those who support them across the UK. They work with local, regional and national organisations to ensure that the best possible support is provided through their services, all of which are designed to help the user understand which assistive technology is available, how it can work and how it can benefit the carer and those cared for. <a href="https://www.aidis.org">www.aidis.org</a>

#### **Assist UK**

Assist UK provides a network of disabled living Centres throughout the UK which provide information and advice from professional staff about products and equipment for easier living.

www.assist-uk.org

#### AT Dementia

A web-based information resource on assistive technologies (including Telecare) for people with dementia. In addition to general information the website contains a database of products which may be of use to people with dementia.

www.atdementia.org.uk

#### **Alzheimer's Society**

The Alzheimer's Society is a membership organisation, which works to improve the quality of life of people affected by dementia in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. It provides both local information and over 2,000 services across England, Wales and Northern Ireland to people affected by dementia in their communities. Their local services include day care and home care for people with dementia, as well as support and befriending services to help partners and families cope with the demands of caring. The Society provides reliable and up—to-date information to help with every aspect of living with dementia: from understanding diagnosis and assessment, to dealing with the financial challenges one may encounter.

http://www.alzheimers.org.uk/

#### **Disabled Living Foundation**

A national charity that provides advice, information and training on independent living. It assists the general public and healthcare professionals to find out about daily living equipment and assistive technology solutions.

www.dlf.org.uk

#### **Everyday-life**

Everyday-life is a website designed through collaboration between West Midlands Academic Health Science Network and medical research organisation Medilink to help patients and carers find products for health and wellbeing in their homes. One can complete a free assessment online to determine appropriate products which might be available.

http://everyday-life.co.uk/

#### Foundation for Assistive Technology (FAST)

FAST is a charity that works with academic researchers, industry, service providers, policy makers and voluntary sector organisations to raise awareness of the crucial importance of equipment to achieve independence. It cooperates with the research and design community to make end users play an active role in the design of assistive technologies. It provides an online database of assistive technology research, events and contact.

www.fastuk.org

#### Living made easy

Living made easy is an impartial advice and information website about daily living equipment and other aspects of independent living. It has been developed by the Disabled Living Foundation (DLF), a national charity providing independent advice about independent living for disabled adults and children, older people, their carers and family.

http://www.livingmadeeasy.org.uk

#### **REMAP**

REMAP is a national charity which works through a network of volunteers and regional panels across England, Wales and Northern Ireland. The volunteers design and make unique, tailor-made pieces of assistive equipment for disabled individuals if no commercial solution exists.

http://www.remap.org.uk

#### ThisCaringHome.org

Their website provides extensive advice on home safety and technology used to support people living with dementia at home.

www.thiscaringhome.org