Assistive Technology
Independence at home
**Memo minder**
Anyone’s voice can be recorded onto this device and it will offer reminders and verbal prompts to do certain tasks, e.g. to take their medication or lock their doors activated by PIR.

**PIR**
*(movement, inactivity, light, action sensor)*
This can detect a user’s movement or a lack of movement at pre-set times. It also has other uses, such as activating a light.

**Keysafe**
Enables District Nurses, carers and emergency response services to access the property should no one else be able to give them access. Other secure entry systems are available, including intercoms.

**Pull cord**
These can be placed anywhere around the home for the user to pull to alert for help.

**Medication dispenser**
Provides audible and visual alerts each time the user needs to take their medication. If medication is not removed from the dispenser then an alert is raised to the carer or monitoring centre.
**Pressure mat**
Placed on the floor, this provides 24-hour monitoring of inactivity, intruders or wandering at night. Can be connected to a carer’s pager or the monitoring centre. It can also activate a lamp to prevent falls during the night.

**Enuresis sensor**
Sensor detects moisture in the bed – this can go to the monitoring centre, be connected to a carer’s pager or alert the user themselves.

**Epilepsy sensor**
Generates an alarm if the user has a seizure whilst in bed. This can be connected to the monitoring centre or carer’s pager.

**Property exit sensor**
This can be used to help keep a vulnerable person safely in their home, when leaving their home could present potential risks. It can detect an open door and alert the monitoring centre.

**Bogus caller alarm**
Fitted near to the front door, this discreet button can be used to call for assistance. Can generate either noisy or silent alarm calls. Doorstep conversations can be monitored and recorded.
**Assistive Technology**

**Simple solutions to keep you safe, secure and independent in your own home.**

'Assistive Technology' is a term used to describe devices and sensors that are installed into someone’s home to enable them to remain living there for as long as possible. It can also offer loved ones peace of mind knowing that help is often just the push of a button away.

The alarms and sensors can detect when a person is at risk and may need assistance. Depending on the type of device, the user will press a simple button or the device will automatically alert a carer’s pager or the St.Helens monitoring centre, Careline, which operates 24 hours a day. Careline is provided by St.Helens Council and is available to anyone who may feel at risk in their own home because of age, disability, isolation, illness or vulnerability. It is activated via the Lifeline Unit, which is plugged in and connected to the telephone line. The Assistive Technology that can be connected to this service can help to promote independence by minimising the risks associated with memory loss, sensory impairments, physical disabilities, learning disabilities and mobility problems.

**What’s Available?**

The following pages highlight many of the devices available, but this list is by no means exhaustive.

If you require further information, please get in touch with the Council's Contact Centre on **01744 676600** or you can go to www.sthelens.gov.uk/mylifemychoice.

**Charges**

Charges may apply. Your eligibility will be discussed with you upon request.
**Lifeline Unit**
This plugs into a telephone socket and power socket and alerts either the monitoring centre or a carer's pager when any of the devices are triggered. Most devices shown in this leaflet require this Unit.

**Pendant alarm**
This can be worn on the wrist, around the neck or clipped onto clothes and when pressed will raise an alarm.

**Minuet watch**
This can be worn instead of a pendant alarm.

**Smoke detector**
Raises an alarm, both in the home and at the monitoring centre, where smoke is detected. Careline would then contact the appropriate emergency services where necessary. For service users with mobility issues or cognitive impairment.

**Carbon Monoxide detector**
Sensor detects Carbon Monoxide and alerts the monitoring centre. It may be activated due to a blocked flue or faulty gas appliance. Useful where user sleeps downstairs.
Bed occupancy sensor
Will alert a carer/monitoring centre if the user has left the bed and not returned within a pre-set time. This can also activate a bedside lamp to help prevent falls.

Chair occupancy sensor
Provides early warning that the user has left their chair and not returned within a set timeframe.

Flood detector
This will detect water on the floor and raise an alarm.

Temperature extremes detector
Detects a rapid rise or fall in temperature. This could be due to a central heating malfunction.

Falls detector (waist & wrist)
Sensor is triggered where a person has a fall/collapse and is unable or unlikely to alert for help in other ways due to loss of consciousness or cognitive impairment.
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