LIVE-IN CARE · BERKSHIRE

Live-in care in Berkshire

Fully managed live-in care across Berkshire, arranged by our care team after a free assessment, plus which of the six councils to call for an assessment, where the A&Es and urgent care services are, how hospital discharge and Continuing Healthcare work, and county-wide help with carers, memory, equipment, transport and hospice care.

From £1,550 a week

Free initial assessment · A written quote before care begins



IN BRIEF

Day and Nightcare provides fully managed live-in care across Berkshire, from £1,550 a week. A dedicated live-in carer lives in your home, supporting you through the day and close by at night, and our CQC-registered care team plans, supervises and reviews the care. The initial assessment is free.

OUR CARE, WHERE YOU LIVE

Our live-in care in Berkshire

Live-in care means one-to-one support in your own home: personal care, medication support, meals, help around the house, getting out and about, and someone close by at night. Whether it suits the person, and whether one carer can support a couple, is worked out at the free assessment. Read more in live-in care explained and how it works day to day.

Dementia care | Care after hospital | End-of-life care | Care for couples | Respite care | Costs and funding

How we arrange live-in care in Berkshire

Day and Nightcare provides fully managed live-in care across Berkshire, from £1,550 a week. One main carer lives in the home; a relief carer covers their holidays and time off, and a manager is on call. Care starts with a free assessment, a written quote and a written care plan.

Care can be paid for privately, by any of Berkshire's six councils (including direct payments) or by NHS Continuing Healthcare. We have provided Discharge to Assess (D2A) care since 2014. If someone is in hospital, tell us the expected discharge date (see live-in care after hospital). Our care team is on 01865 715780.

Arranging care and funding in Berkshire

Who to call for a care needs assessment, how council and NHS funding work here, and what to expect.

Berkshire has no county council. Six unitary councils each run adult social care and collect council tax for their own area, so start with your relative's council. To ask for a care needs assessment:

- **Reading:** the online care and assessment form, one form per person. Call 0118 937 3747 if you have difficulty with the form.
- **West Berkshire:** call 01635 503050 or email adultcare@westberks.gov.uk.
- **Wokingham:** the online self-referral form, or the Health and Social Care Hub on 0300 365 1234.
- **Bracknell Forest:** the online Adult Social Care portal, adult.socialcare@bracknell-forest.gov.uk or 01344 351500.
- **Windsor and Maidenhead:** the Adult Social Care Front Door on 01628 683744 or adultsocialcarefrontdoor@rbwm.gov.uk.
- **Slough:** call 01753 475111 and choose the adult social care option, or use the online enquiry form.

Out of hours, one **Emergency Duty Service on 01344 351 999** covers all six councils (5pm to 9am on weekdays, and from 5pm Friday to 9am Monday, including bank holidays).

The needs assessment is free, and anyone can ask for one. A financial assessment follows. With more than £23,250 in savings your relative would usually pay the full cost, and the home is not counted when care is at home.

Arrangement fees. If you pay in full and ask the council to arrange care, Reading charges a £382.15 set-up fee and £314.35 a year (2026/27), and Windsor and Maidenhead £452.55 to set up and £419.97 a year. West Berkshire's 2026/27 fees, approved in February 2026, include £383 a year. You can also arrange live-in care directly with a provider.

Carers' assessments. In Reading, the Reading and West Berkshire Carers Partnership carries them out for the council (0118 926 3941). In Wokingham, ask online or through the Hub; in Bracknell Forest and Slough, use the council's adult social care portal; in Windsor and Maidenhead, call the Front Door or use its online carers referral form.

Council tax. Ask about the severe mental impairment discount (West Berkshire, Bracknell Forest, Wokingham and Slough mention dementia), carers' discounts and the disabled band reduction. See council tax discounts for care.

Urgent care and leaving hospital in Berkshire

- **A&E, west:** the Emergency Department (A&E) at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Craven Road, Reading, open 24 hours.
- **Urgent care, Reading:** Reading Urgent Care Centre, at the Royal Berkshire (Craven Road entrance), is open 10am to 9.30pm every day, including public holidays. It takes walk-ins and NHS 111 or GP referrals. It is not an A&E.
- **Minor injuries, West Berkshire:** the Minor Injuries Unit at West Berkshire Community Hospital, Thatcham, sees people by appointment only: call NHS 111 first. It is not an A&E.
- **A&E, east:** Wexham Park Hospital in Slough, run by Frimley Health, has a 24-hour A&E.

At the **Royal Berkshire Hospital**, the Discharge Lounge (level 1, Battle Block) is open Monday to Friday, 7.30am to 8pm, not bank holidays. A nurse explains the medicines and discharge letter, and there is free drop-off parking for whoever collects your relative.

Windsor and Maidenhead works on a **Home First** basis: short-term support or reablement at home, with long-term decisions left until recovery has progressed (hospital team: Hospital.Team@RBWM.gov.uk).

NHS Continuing Healthcare is arranged by NHS Thames Valley Integrated Care Board, which has covered Berkshire since 1 April 2026. It lists two Berkshire teams: Berkshire West on 0118 982 2900, and East Berkshire, at King Edward VII Hospital in Windsor, on 0300 304 9200.

Local help in Berkshire

Carers' services, dementia support, transport, befriending and other local help, with phone numbers.

- **Carers.** The Reading and West Berkshire Carers Partnership supports carers in both areas (0118 926 3941). Age UK Berkshire leads the Wokingham Carers Partnership for carers aged 19 and over (0118 959 4242). SIGNAL for Carers gives free support in Bracknell Forest (01344 266088), and Slough Carers Support is on 01753 303428. Windsor and Maidenhead's monthly carers' drop-in at Maidenhead Town Hall starts on 5 November 2026 (first Thursday, 10am to 11am).
- **Memory and dementia.** Berkshire Healthcare's memory clinics take referrals from the GP. Alongside them, the Alzheimer's Society's West Berkshire Dementia Care Adviser Service is for people with dementia and their carers (0118 959 6482, Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm). Bracknell Forest Council has a Dementia Adviser (0118 904 6900), and Optalis Dementia Care Advisors cover Windsor and Maidenhead (01628 683715).
- **Equipment.** Since NRS Healthcare closed on 1 August 2025, Millbrook Healthcare has supplied community equipment after a council or NHS assessment. Items with an NRS label can still be used; Millbrook (0118 228 8701) handles collections, repairs and returns.
- **Getting about.** ReadiBus is a dial-a-ride for people with restricted mobility in and around Reading; register first (0118 931 0000). Keep Mobile's Dial a Ride is for Bracknell Forest residents aged 70 or over, or with a disability that rules out mainstream transport; members book at least two days ahead (admin@keepmobile.org.uk). People to Places serves members in Windsor and Maidenhead (01628 587920), and Slough Community Transport is on 01753 691131. In West Berkshire's downland villages, between Chieveley, Aldworth and Fawley, the Downland Volunteer Group drives elderly, sick or disabled people to hospitals, GPs, dentists and opticians; book by phone (01635 578394, weekdays 9.30am to 11.30am).
- **Hospices.** Sue Ryder Duchess of Kent Hospice serves Berkshire West (0118 950 5276). Thames Hospice near Maidenhead serves East Berkshire (24-hour advice line 01753 848925).

What may change soon

- **West Berkshire (proposed).** On 29 October 2026 the Government said it is minded to go ahead with a three-council plan for Oxfordshire that takes in the West Berkshire Council area; a final decision follows at least three weeks of representations. New councils would start in 2029. Until then, West Berkshire Council runs adult social care and collects council tax.

- **Bracknell Forest charges (consultation).** On 13 October 2026 the Cabinet approved a draft Adult Social Care Charging Policy for a 12-week public consultation.

USEFUL LOCAL CONTACTS

Useful contacts in Berkshire

The councils, NHS teams, hospitals and local services you are most likely to need in Berkshire, with links to their official pages. Open any heading for the details.

Councils and care assessments

Adult social care in Berkshire is arranged by West Berkshire Council, Reading Borough Council, Wokingham Borough Council, Bracknell Forest Council, Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and Slough Borough Council. Anyone who appears to need care can ask for a free care needs assessment, whatever their savings. If the council funds care, you can usually take it as a direct payment and use it for live-in care from us.

- **West Berkshire Council:** ask for a care needs assessment (telephone 01635 503050); carer's assessment.
- **Reading Borough Council:** ask for a care needs assessment (telephone 0118 937 3747); carer's assessment.
- **Wokingham Borough Council:** ask for a care needs assessment (telephone 0300 365 1234); carer's assessment.
- **Bracknell Forest Council:** ask for a care needs assessment (telephone 01344 351500); carer's assessment.
- **Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead:** ask for a care needs assessment (telephone 01628 683744); carer's assessment.
- **Slough Borough Council:** ask for a care needs assessment (telephone 01753 475111); carer's assessment.

Our guide to reducing the cost of care and funding checker explain every route.

NHS Continuing Healthcare

When someone's main need is a health need, the NHS pays for all of their care through NHS Continuing Healthcare, and it is not means-tested. In Berkshire it is arranged by NHS Thames Valley Integrated Care Board (Continuing Healthcare information). We already support people whose care is funded by NHS Continuing Healthcare. See our NHS Continuing Healthcare guide.

Hospitals

If someone is in hospital, tell us the expected discharge date as early as you can, and we will work with you and the discharge team on when live-in care can start.

- Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading (leaving hospital information)
- West Berkshire Community Hospital, Thatcham (Newbury)
- Wokingham Community Hospital, Wokingham
- Prospect Park Hospital (Oakwood ward and older people's mental health), Reading
- St Mark's Hospital, Maidenhead
- King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor
- Upton Hospital, Slough
- Wexham Park Hospital, Slough (leaving hospital information)
- Heatherwood Hospital, Ascot (leaving hospital information)
- Frimley Park Hospital, Camberley (Surrey) (leaving hospital information)

Local support and charities

- Reading & West Berkshire Carers Partnership: Carers' support
- Wokingham Carers Partnership: Carers' support
- SIGNAL for Carers: Carers' support
- Slough Carers Support: Carers' support
- RBWM Together: Carers support listings (Windsor and Maidenhead): Carers' support
- Age UK Berkshire: Age UK
- Age UK Reading: Age UK
- Sue Ryder Duchess of Kent Hospice: Hospice
- Thames Hospice: Hospice
- Healthwatch West Berkshire: Healthwatch: your independent voice on health and care
- Healthwatch Reading: Healthwatch: your independent voice on health and care
- Healthwatch Wokingham Borough: Healthwatch: your independent voice on health and care
- Healthwatch Bracknell Forest: Healthwatch: your independent voice on health and care
- Healthwatch Windsor, Ascot and Maidenhead: Healthwatch: your independent voice on health and care
- Healthwatch Slough: Healthwatch: your independent voice on health and care
- West Berkshire Directory: Local services directory
- Slough Community Directory (Wellbeing for Slough): Local services directory

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Council tax and equipment

Council tax discounts for people with a severe mental impairment, for disabled people and for some carers are claimed from the local council: West Berkshire Council, Reading Borough Council, Wokingham Borough Council, Bracknell Forest Council, Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Slough Borough Council. See council tax discounts for care.

Equipment such as hoists, hospital beds and bathing aids is provided after an assessment through Berkshire Community Equipment Service (Millbrook Healthcare). See equipment and home adaptations.

COVERAGE

Towns we cover in Berkshire

We provide live-in care everywhere in Berkshire, including:

Reading | Newbury | Thatcham | Wokingham | Bracknell | Maidenhead | Windsor | Ascot | Slough

YOUR QUESTIONS

Questions about live-in care in Berkshire

Who do I call in Berkshire to ask for a care assessment?

It depends which of the six councils your relative lives in. Reading: the online care and assessment form, or 0118 937 3747 if the form is difficult. West Berkshire: 01635 503050 (Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 5pm, Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm). Wokingham: the Health and Social Care Hub on 0300 365 1234. Bracknell Forest: 01344 351500. Windsor and Maidenhead: the Adult Social Care Front Door on 01628 683744. Slough: 01753 475111. Out of hours, one Emergency Duty Service covers all six councils on 01344 351 999. In West Berkshire, a carer can ask for a carer's assessment online or on 01635 503050; carers do not pay for their support.

Who arranges NHS Continuing Healthcare in Berkshire?

NHS Thames Valley Integrated Care Board, which has covered Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire since 1 April 2026. It still lists two Berkshire teams. Berkshire West (Reading, Wokingham and West Berkshire) is on 0118 982 2900. East Berkshire (Bracknell Forest, Windsor and Maidenhead, and Slough) is based at King Edward VII Hospital in Windsor, on 0300 304 9200. A health or social care professional completes the first checklist.

Can a Berkshire council arrange care if we pay for it ourselves?

Yes, if you ask, but some councils charge for doing it. For 2026/27, Reading charges people who pay in full a £382.15 set-up fee and £314.35 a year, and Windsor and Maidenhead charges £452.55 to set up care and £419.97 a year. West Berkshire charges £383 a year. You can also arrange live-in care directly with a provider. Anyone can ask the council for a needs assessment, whatever their savings.

Is there community transport in West Berkshire?

Yes. Volunteer Centre West Berkshire runs Handybuses in Newbury and Thatcham for people who struggle with public transport (01635 37111, Monday to Thursday 9am to 1pm) and a volunteer car scheme, especially for medical appointments (01635 49004, weekdays 10am to 1pm); no referral is needed. Newbury & District Cancer Care Trust drives people from anywhere in West Berkshire to hospital treatment and appointments (01635 243343, weekdays 10am to 3pm). In the eastern parishes, such as Theale, Pangbourne, Bradfield and Tilehurst, Carebus volunteers drive elderly, disabled and isolated people to medical care, shopping and family (0118 930 4837, 24-hour answering service). In the west, the council also lists Hungerford CHAIN's car scheme (01488 683727, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9am to 11am) and Lambourn Volunteer Group (01488 71536, Mondays and Thursdays, 10am to 12 noon).

Which hospice serves our part of Berkshire?

In the west, Sue Ryder Duchess of Kent Hospice in Reading (0118 950 5276) serves Berkshire West, including Reading, Newbury and Wokingham, with an inpatient unit, Hospice at Home and a 24/7 clinical advice line for its patients and their families. In the east, Thames Hospice, near Bray Lake in Maidenhead, cares for people aged 16 and over in East Berkshire, free of charge, after a referral from a healthcare professional. Its 24-hour advice line for East Berkshire patients and families is 01753 848925.

How much does live-in care cost in Berkshire?

Live-in care with Day and Nightcare costs from £1,550 a week anywhere in Berkshire, the same as everywhere in England, for one person with a carer who rests at night. That includes our care team's management (the assessment, care plan, reviews, supervision and the on-call manager) and the carer's food; break cover and the carer's travel are extra. For a couple it is from £1,800 a week, where one carer can safely meet both partners' needs. You receive a written quote after a free assessment.

Can the council help pay for live-in care in Berkshire?

Yes, if the person's care needs meet the national eligibility criteria and their savings are below £23,250 (2026/27). Adult social care in Berkshire is arranged by West Berkshire Council, Reading Borough Council, Wokingham Borough Council, Bracknell Forest Council, Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and Slough Borough Council. Ask for a care needs assessment; if you are eligible, council funding can usually be taken as a direct payment and used for live-in care from us.

Can live-in care start when someone leaves Royal Berkshire Hospital?

It can. Tell us the expected discharge date as early as you can, and we will work with you and the ward's discharge team on when live-in care can start. We can often start within 24 to 48 hours of the assessment, depending on carer availability, and we confirm the start date once a carer is arranged. We have provided Discharge to Assess (D2A) care since 2014.

How would live-in care be supported in Berkshire?

Our care team supports every live-in placement, wherever it is in England: a free assessment, a written care plan, regular contact and reviews, one main live-in carer, with a relief carer covering holidays and time off, and a manager on call outside office hours. Your carer works alongside the person's own GP, community nurses and any hospice team already involved in their care.

Sources and further information

- Reading Borough Council: How to ask for help
- Bracknell Forest Council: Emergency Duty Service (EDS), run for all six Berkshire councils
- Reading Borough Council: Emergency Duty Service (EDS)
- Reading Borough Council: Fees for arranging care for self-funders (Appendix Q)
- Reading Borough Council: Carer's assessment
- Reading Borough Council: Equipment to stay independent
- West Berkshire Directory: Adult Social Care from West Berkshire Council
- West Berkshire Council: Contact Adult Social Care
- West Berkshire Council: Support for carers
- West Berkshire Council: Council Tax reduction, discounts and exemptions
- West Berkshire Council: Support leaving hospital (Joint Care Pathway)
- West Berkshire Council: Community transport groups in West Berkshire
- West Berkshire Council: Fees and charges 2026-27 (Appendix C)
- NHS website: Getting a care needs assessment
- Wokingham Borough Council: How to request a social care needs assessment
- Wokingham Borough Council: Requesting a carer's assessment
- Bracknell Forest Council: Assessing your support needs
- Bracknell Forest Council: Support for carers
- Bracknell Forest Council: Adult Social Care Charging Policy decision

- Bracknell Forest Council: Dementia support groups and events
- Bracknell Forest Council: Keep Mobile community transport
- Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead: Community social work team (adults)
- Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead: Support for carers
- Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead: Social care support for patients leaving hospital
- Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead: Adults and health fees and charges
- Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead: Community transport
- RBWM Together: Carers support in Maidenhead
- Slough Borough Council: Adult social care access
- Slough Borough Council: Useful adult social care contact details
- Slough Borough Council: Carers assessments
- Slough Borough Council: Carers in Slough
- Slough Borough Council: Community equipment services
- Slough Borough Council: Slough Community Transport
- Reading Borough Council: Help paying your council tax
- Wokingham Borough Council: Council tax discounts
- Bracknell Forest Council: Council tax discounts
- Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead: Council tax reductions
- Slough Borough Council: Council tax discounts
- GOV.UK: Local Government Reorganisation moves forward in five counties (29 October 2026)
- NHS Thames Valley ICB: Continuing Healthcare
- NHS Thames Valley ICB: Launch of NHS Thames Valley Integrated Care Board
- Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust: Emergency Department (A&E)
- Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust: Reading Urgent Care Centre
- Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust: Discharge Lounge
- NHS website: Wexham Park Hospital, departments and services
- NHS website: Wexham Park Hospital, accident and emergency services
- NHS website: Royal Berkshire Hospital, accident and emergency services
- Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust: Minor Injuries Unit
- Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust: West Berkshire Community Hospital
- Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust: Wokingham Hospital

- Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust: Prospect Park Hospital
- Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust: St Mark's Hospital
- Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust: Upton Hospital
- Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust: King Edward VII Hospital
- Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust: Memory clinic
- Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust: Community equipment services
- Alzheimer's Society: Dementia Care Adviser Service, West Berkshire
- Reading and West Berkshire Carers Partnership
- West Berkshire Council: Council minutes, 26 February 2026 (2026/27 budget and council tax)
- Reading and West Berkshire Carers Partnership: Wokingham Carers Partnership
- SIGNAL for Carers
- ReadiBus
- West Berkshire Directory: Community HandyBus and car scheme (Volunteer Centre West Berkshire)
- NHS website: Carebus
- Carebus
- NHS website: Downland Volunteer Group
- Frilsham Parish Council: Downland Volunteer Group
- Sue Ryder South East (Duchess of Kent Hospice)
- Thames Hospice: About us
- Thames Hospice: Get in touch
- Thames Hospice: 24-hour telephone advice line

Price
From £1,550 a week

Covers
All of Berkshire

CQC rating
Good

Assessment
Free, with no obligation

Live-in care near Berkshire

Live-in care in Oxfordshire
Live-in care in Buckinghamshire
Live-in care in Wiltshire and Swindon
Live-in care in Gloucestershire
Live-in care in Northamptonshire
Live-in care in Warwickshire
Live-in care in Hampshire
Live-in care in Bristol
Live-in care in Cornwall
Live-in care in Devon
Live-in care in London
Live-in care in Somerset
Live-in care in Surrey
Anywhere in England

Talk to our care team: 01865 715780
enquiries@dayandnightcare.co.uk · Out of hours: 07775 686272
Day and Nightcare Live In Limited, 9 Hollow Way, Cowley, Oxford OX4 2NA
CQC overall rating: Good (report published 20 April 2018)

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Information, not advice: please check anything important with the organisation named.