



CUMBERLAND  
CITY COUNCIL

# The *Press for Help* Initiative

## PERSONAL MOBILE ALARM APPLICATION FORM

This form is to be completed by anyone wishing to apply for a Personal Mobile Alarm via the Press for Help Initiative. This initiative aims to provide affordable, assistive technology to seniors in the Cumberland area, to increase their confidence, safety and security both at home and in the community. Please complete all questions on this form and then send your form to Council via post or email.

### Details below:

**Post:** PO Box 42, Merrylands 2160

Attn: Brittany Lee, Service Development Officer Seniors & Disability Services

**In person:** 16 Memorial Avenue , Merrylands 2160

**Email:** seniors.disability@cumberland.nsw.gov.au

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for a Personal Mobile Alarm via the Press for Help initiative, you must:  
(please tick the points relevant to you)

- ☐ Be aged over 65
- ☐ Live in the Cumberland Local Government Area and be able to provide evidence of this.
- ☐ Experience injury, illness or disability that may hinder your full participation in the community.
- ☐ Be in receipt of a pension.
- ☐ Not have any assets or family assistance that could reasonably be expected to resolve your inability to privately purchase a personal mobile alarm.
- ☐ You live alone OR are alone for most of the day or evening OR live with a person who would be unable to get to the phone in an emergency or is unable to use the phone.
- ☐ You have had at least one fall that needed medical attention in the past 12 months, or are at risk of falls.
- ☐ Experience a major medical or chronic condition that puts you at risk of medical emergencies or has some ongoing effect on your health or wellbeing. For example, falls, seizures, dementia etc.
- ☐ Be able to pay an upfront deposit of \$100.
- ☐ Complete the medical and independent living skills assessment section of this form with a GP, caseworker or other health professional.



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Please note, you will only be eligible for a personal mobile alarm if you meet the eligibility criteria requirements. If you are eligible for NDIS funding or are a Gold Card member with the Department of Veteran affairs, you are not eligible for the Press for Help initiative. Priority will be given to individuals who are identified as being most at risk.

### ASSESSMENT AND ALLOCATION

Cumberland City Council has a limited amount of personal mobile alarms available. All applications received are assessed for eligibility and applicants are notified in writing of their eligibility. If there are no alarm units available, you will be added to a waiting list.

**Important:** The allocation of available alarm units will be at Council's discretion. Priority will be given to those who are identified as most at risk of isolation or of falls both in the home and out in the community.

### ABOUT YOU (applicants details)

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Country of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you require an interpreter or translated information?** If so, please state which language is required.

☐

Yes

☐

No

Language required: \_\_\_\_\_

**What has prevented you from purchasing a personal mobile alarm yourself?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



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### ABOUT YOU *continued...* (applicants details)

**What is your current income?** (Please attach written proof with your application).

**Type of income (pension):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount per fortnight:** \_\_\_\_\_

**What is your current housing?**

- ☐ Own home
- ☐ Private rental
- ☐ Public housing
- ☐ With family or friends
- ☐ Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

### MEDICAL AND INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS ASSESSMENT

This section is to be completed with the client's regular General Practitioner, caseworker or other health/support professional.

**Professional's details:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number: \_\_\_\_\_

**How long has the applicant been your patient, client or customer?**

- ☐ One off consultation only
- ☐ Weeks
- ☐ Months
- ☐ Years



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### APPLICANT QUESTIONNAIRE

Did you know you could access subsidised services to help you stay independent and living at home for longer?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Have you heard of My Aged Care?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Do you understand what My Aged Care is and how it works?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Are you registered with My Aged Care?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If you are, are you accessing any services?

☐ No

☐ Yes (please specify)

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Did you know Cumberland City Council offers subsidised services through My Aged Care for people aged over 65?

☐ Yes

☐ No



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### APPLICANT QUESTIONNAIRE

Please provide 1 - 5 contacts you'd like programmed into your alarm. These are the numbers the alarm will call, in order, in the case of an emergency or incident (please include the contacts name and number). 000 can be an option if you like.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

### WHAT IF YOU'RE INELIGIBLE?

If you are ineligible Council will advise you of this outcome. Below are some suggestions for you if you are ineligible for the Press for Help initiative.

- Share payment for a similar product between family members or make it a birthday or Christmas gift. You can find a range of personal mobile alarm providers in the yellow pages or on the internet.
- Encourage family or friends to make a daily phone call or visit.
- Speak to trusted neighbours, family and friends about working out a way to let each other know you're okay. Look out for things like unopened blinds if they're usually opened or uncollected mail.
- If you are an NDIS participant, you can check if you can purchase a personal mobile alarm using your funding. Contact the NDIS on 1800 800 110.
- If you are a Gold Card member with the Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA), you can apply for a subsidised personal mobile alarm. Contact the DVA on 133 254.
- NSW Police Next of Kin program

Seniors who live alone can register personal information such as next of kin, doctor's and dentist's contact details, and medical alert information. In an emergency, this helps ambulance officers or police get in touch with the nominated people more easily. For more information or to register for this free service, contact your local police station and speak to the Crime Prevention Officer.

- Australian Red Cross Telecross Service

Red Cross can provide you with a daily telephone call to check on your wellbeing through a service known as Telecross. This provides peace of mind if you are at risk of an accident and being unable to call for help. For more information you can call Red Cross on 1300 885 698.