

## Are you Deaf or Hearing Impaired?

### Fact Sheet 3

(March 2017)

In Carmarthenshire there are a range of services available to help people with a sensory impairment keep as much independence and control over their lives as possible.

This leaflet tells you about these services and how to find out more about them.

### What is Sensory Impairment?

Sensory impairment is the term used to describe disabilities such as:

- **Deaf/hearing impaired**
- **Blind/visually impaired**
- **Deafblind (dual sensory impaired)**

If you are deaf or hearing impaired, you may be experiencing frustrating problems at home.

Perhaps you have difficulty hearing television programs or you don't always hear the telephone or doorbell ring.

You may be finding it difficult hearing what someone is saying on the telephone or there may be some other practical difficulties caused by your hearing problems.

If any of these situations apply to you then it is likely you will be entitled to an assessment for care and support from Carmarthenshire County Council which may be able to help with the provision of specialist equipment.

If you are profoundly deaf, you may find that a vibrating pager system or flashing light may be more suited to your needs. Equipment like this can alert you to callers at the door or the phone ringing. There are also smoke detector systems especially for deaf or hard of hearing people.



For more information on social care services log onto:  
[www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/socialcare](http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/socialcare)

If you experience difficulty in accessing services because of hearing impairment we have trained staff who may be able to help you. If needed, we can help you to access a Sign Language Interpreter, Lip-Speaker or other communication support at any important appointments you may have.

A social work service in sign language is also available.

If you are severely or profoundly deaf and experience frequent difficulties with communication, you may be entitled to Personal Independence Payment (formerly DLA). We can advise you about this.

We can provide you with information about the various Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deafblind clubs in the area, as well as lipreading classes.

If you know of someone who is deafblind we can advise you on the services, both national and local, that are available to support that person.

## How can I contact you?

You can contact our officers by telephoning our Information, Advice and Assistance service on 0300 333 2222 or by minicom on Tel: 01554 756741 or by SMS: 0789 2345678 or by making a referral through our website [www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/socialcare](http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/socialcare)

For hearing impaired children, please phone the Children's Disability Team: **01267 246400**.

## Other organisations that can help include:

British Deaf Association Wales	0207 697 4140
Carmarthen & District Hearing Impaired Group	01267 235503
Deafblind UK	0800 132320
Ammanford Hard of Hearing Group	01269 594741
Llanelli Deaf Club	☎ 01554 759214
Llanelli Hard of Hearing Club	✉ llanellideafclub@googlemail.com
Action on Hearing Loss	01554 770770
Sense Cymru	0808 808 0123
Wales Council for Deaf People	0300 330 9280
	01443 485687

**If you would like this fact sheet in large print, Braille or on audio, please ☎ 01267 228703**



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