

People Select Committee

Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG)

Sam Dixon – Housing Regeneration and Investment Manager

13th May 2024

Disabled Facilities Grants

Introduction

- What is a DFG
- Governance
- Access to DFG's
- Different Stages
- Timescales
- Current Pressures

Disabled Facilities Grants

What is a DFG

Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) is a capital grant contributing to the cost of home adaptations, to enable eligible disabled people to continue living safely and independently. A DFG is available to disabled people of all ages in all housing tenures, depending on eligibility.

Disabled Facilities Grants

Funding

- Housing Grants and Construction Act 1996
- Part of Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) programme
- Pooled budgets between the NHS and Local Authorities (LA)
- Funding passed to LA's

Disabled Facilities Grants

Eligibility

- HIA / DFG
- Maximum Grant
- Means Test
- Passported Benefits
- Types of eligible adaptations

Disabled Facilities Grants

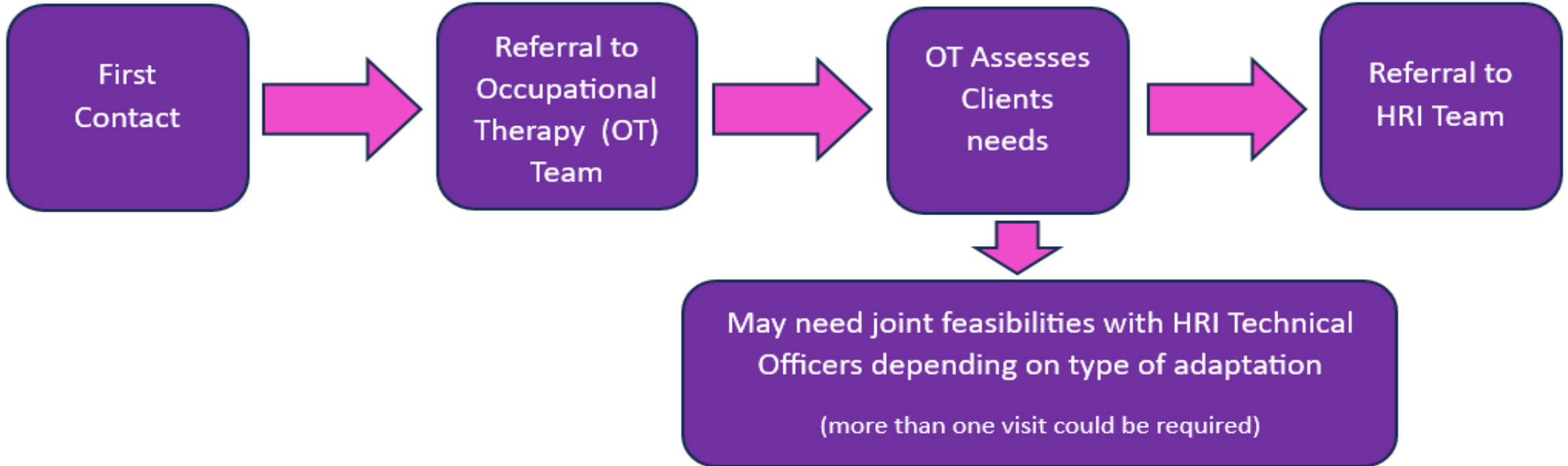
Housing Assistance Policy

- The Regulatory Reform Order 2002 (Housing Assistance) (England and Wales)
- Housing Assistance Policy (HAP)
- What included in SBC's

Disabled Facilities Grants

Accessing a DFG / Process

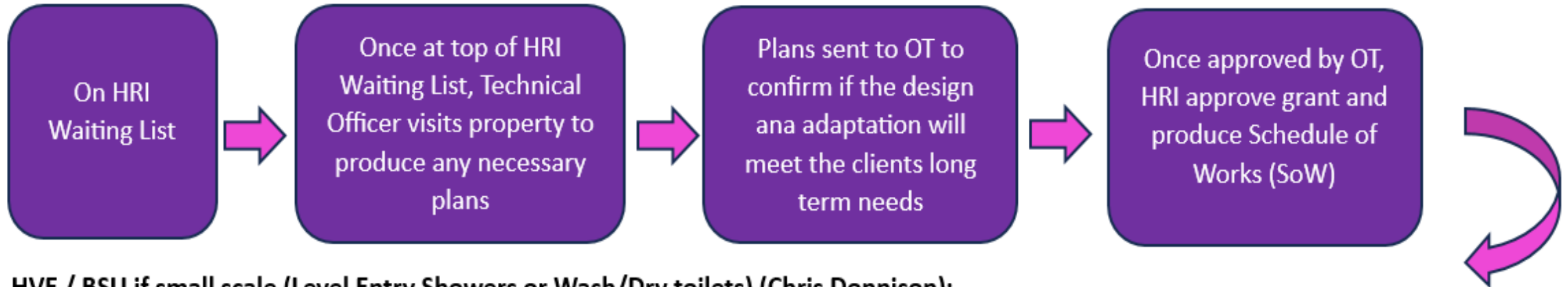
1 – First Contact / Occupational Therapy (Krasen Saltikov)



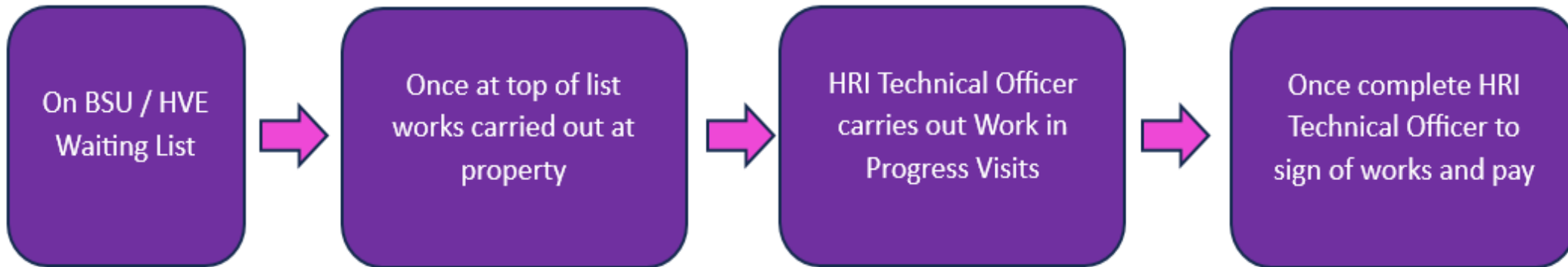
Disabled Facilities Grants

Process cont...

2. Housing Regeneration and Investment (HRI) (Sam Dixon)



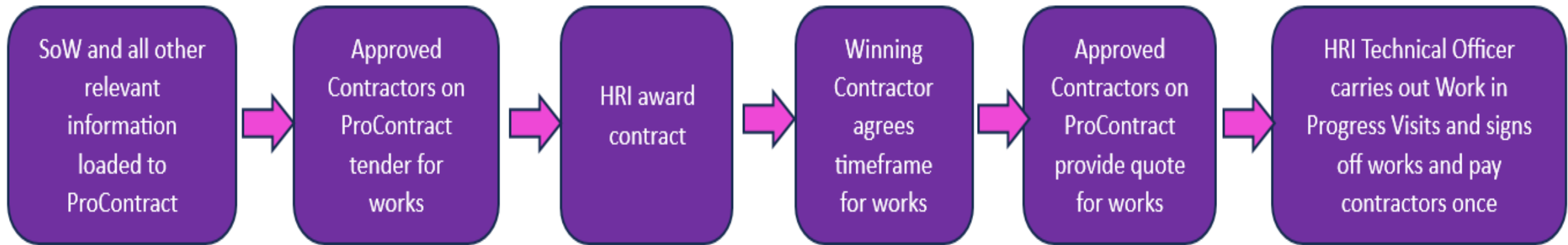
3. HVE / BSU if small scale (Level Entry Showers or Wash/Dry toilets) (Chris Donnison):



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Process cont...

4. All other works (HRI – Sam Dixon)



Disabled Facilities Grants

Timescales

- Occupational Therapy (OT) current waiting list
- OT current waiting times
- Housing Regeneration & Investment (HRI) current waiting list
- HRI current waiting times
- HRI previous waiting list/times
- Building Services Unit (BSU/HVE) current waiting list
- BSU current waiting times

Disabled Facilities Grants

Government Target Timescales

There are 5 key stages of delivering a home adaptation.

Stage 0: first contact with services

Stage 1: first contact to assessment and identification of the relevant works;

Stage 2: identification of the relevant works to submission of the formal grant application

Stage 3: grant application to grant approval

Stage 4: approval of grant to completion of works.

Type	Target timescales (working days)				
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Total
Urgent & Simple	5	25	5	20	55
Non-urgent & Simple	20	50	20	40	130
Urgent & Complex	20	45	5	60	130
Non-urgent & Complex	35	55	20	80	180

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Current Pressures

- Waiting Lists Increasing
- Upper DFG Limit
- Balancing budget
- Registered Providers
- New recommendations from 2018
- Customer Feedback

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Potential Items to look at

- Customer experience of DFG journey
- Review of existing DFG / HAP Policies
- Review of 2018 Government recommendations
- Can we support DFG budget any better?
- Increased reliance on DFG from Registered Providers (RP)
- Customer Feedback

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Potential Plan

- Deep Dive of DFG / HAP Policies and funding
- Review of OT processes
- Review of HRI processes
- Review of BSU/HVE processes
- Customer Experience and Feedback

Thank You

Any Questions / Feedback