



## About Howz

Howz supports people to live independently in their own homes. It has been used in homes across the UK since 2016.

Howz is a technology platform. It uses a set of sensors to pick up activity within the home, which describe your normal routine and help identify if something isn't right. There are no cameras or microphones in use.



The system uses the same sensors as those used in a burglar alarm; with motion detection, door open/close, and smart plugs placed on the kettle or microwave.

The information from the sensors is reviewed by our system and then shared with your health or social care home care services and any other individuals you nominate.

Howz has been developed to help those outside the home know that all is well with you, and it can be used to demonstrate how well somebody is managing. We hope it will help you, your family, friends, or carers make key decisions about any support you need at home.

### **Why do we think this will be helpful to you?**

When someone has been in hospital it can affect their confidence to do daily tasks when they get home. It can take a while to get back into your normal routine, and you may now be receiving visits to help with some of the activities.

Our system will help identify your normal routine and look for particular issues that we know might increase your risk of going back into hospital.

You can nominate friends, families, or carers to view your information which means they will have the reassurance of knowing you are up and about.



## What happens if I go ahead with the service?

If you agree, you will be referred to Howz who will then contact you, your family, friends, or carers to confirm your details and make sure everyone understands the full service. **There is no charge for this service.**

Our installers from City Wide Care Alarms will then be in touch to arrange an appointment to visit you at home and install the sensors.

The sensors are fixed to the wall with temporary fixings so there will be no screws or nails. The system connects to power (uses very little electricity) and your internet. If you do not have internet, we will provide this for you.

The sensors will be in place for up to 6 weeks and then City Wide Care Alarms will return to remove the devices. You can stop the service at any time, and this will not affect the care you receive from other services.

Once the sensors are installed you will be asked to nominate people to share your information with. We need their email address and then they will receive an invitation to set up their account.



## What will happen to my information?

Sheffield City Council have worked with Howz to complete a thorough Data Protection Impact Assessment to ensure that your personal information is kept safe and secure at all times.

Howz will only use your details to provide you with this service, provide the app and reports to those you nominate, and get your feedback about the service.

All information is stored in the UK or EEA. We only use your name if we have to, otherwise we use a series of numbers to identify you.

