

Housing Matters Home Safety Team

SAFER FUTURE COMMUNITIES
Empowering local voluntary & community partnerships

Managed by Age UK Nottingham and Nottinghamshire since September 2003, the Housing Matters Home Safety Team aims to help older people in Nottingham City stay safe and independent in their own homes by reducing their fear of crime and the risk of accidents.

The aim of the project is to visit the homes of older people to carry out a home safety check based on their home and surroundings, identifying and providing advice on hazards that could lead to them being the victim of a crime or accident, with the focus being on prevention rather than reaction.

The team, which consists of three visiting coordinators, work with the Nottingham Crime & Drugs Partnership, to supply and demonstrate the use of smart water to its clients.

Where appropriate and where funding is available, they can also fit security alarms on the client's property and provide segment timers to activate lamps or radios when they are away from home.

The team also work closely with other agencies including Nottinghamshire Fire & Rescue service to carry out full fire safety risk assessments and fit smoke alarms, and Age UK Nottingham's Signposting Service to assist clients to access a range of other services.

By implementing crime prevention measures, including the smart water and security devices, and providing advice on bogus callers and how to avoid rogue

traders, the project has helped improve the quality of life and independence of over 2,000 clients in the last four years, whilst making a contribution to the reduction of crime in the Nottingham City area.

For further information on Age UK Nottingham and Nottinghamshire visit www.ageuk.org.uk/notts.