

## Digital switchover and social care

Many people see TV as the ‘the friend in the corner’.

Digital TV can bring a range of extra benefits but may seem challenging to some residents.

The switchover to digital TV – which is happening in our TV region in xxx and will affect all our residents – will bring more channels and greater access to services such as subtitling and audio description, benefiting residents with sight or hearing disabilities.

While many of our residents have already converted one of their TV sets to digital, some will find switching over more difficult.

The Switchover Help Scheme, which is run by the BBC under an agreement with the Government to help older and disabled people make the change to digital TV, offers practical help to those eligible. Our social care staff can assist by making sure that eligible residents know about the scheme and how to sign up to it, and in helping residents understand general switchover information. Some councils are doing this as part of their standard home visits.

Some people who are not eligible for the scheme may still experience difficulties with switchover. Digital Outreach Ltd, our community outreach partner, is working in the first five switchover regions with voluntary and community sector partners to ensure that people get the support they need. For more information, visit their website at [Digital Outreach Ltd](#).

To find out more about eligibility for the Help Scheme and how you can help residents get to grips with switchover, visit the Help Scheme website [helpscheme.co.uk](https://helpscheme.co.uk) or the Digital UK website for local government at [digitaluk.co.uk/localgov](https://digitaluk.co.uk/localgov).

There are often cost and practical implications of the conversion of televisions and communal TV systems for residential homes, day centres and other properties. There is a specific section on care homes in [Digital UK's property managers' guide](#).

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