**General support**

* Contact [Alzheimer’s Society Dementia Connect](https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/dementiaconnectfaq) on 0333 150 3456 for support if you have any questions or need advice
* The [Herbert Protocol](https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/advice/personal-safety-and-possessions/dementia-awareness/herbert-protocol-missing-person-incident-form-accessible-leaflet) is supported by West Yorkshire Police. This is a preventative protocol in case the person living with dementia goes missing. The measures help the police to act quickly to find someone who has gone missing and hopefully minimise the distress that this can result in both for the individual and their family.

**Out and about**

* You can purchase a [radar key](https://www.disabilityrightsuk.org/) which fits most disabled toilets in UK (including airports, train stations, etc) from the information desk in the Ridings Shopping Centre, Wakefield or online. Cost as at June 2022 is £2.75.
* People living with dementia qualify for a [Blue Badge](https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/parking/blue-badge). Application form is available on Wakefield MDC website. Admiral Nurses (via Memory Clinic – 01924 316973) will assist with completion if required.
* [Disabled Persons Railcards](http://www.disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk) are available at a cost as at February 2018 £20 for one year, or £54 for three years. This allows the cardholder and another adult travelling with him/her 1/3 off ticket price on all trains on the National rail network of Great Britain. It also allows 1/3 off Oyster card journeys in London – again for cardholder and another adult travelling with them.
* When travelling by air – check the airport you are departing from to understand what help they can offer for people with ‘hidden disabilities’. Sunflower lanyards should be available which allow fast tracking through security and choice of boarding the plane (first or last).
* Most cinemas, theatres, sports grounds and other leisure centres offer a free place for an unpaid carer who is accompanying someone living with dementia. It’s been found it is best to book by telephone or visiting the venue and talking to someone for this facility rather than booking online.

**Finances**

* Dementia connect and [Age UK](https://www.ageuk.org.uk/wakefielddistrict/) (01977 552114) can both provide assistance to complete the Lasting Power of Attorney forms (no need to use a solicitor). Please remember there are two types of Lasting Power of Attorney, one for Health and one for finances. Someone will ring you at a convenient time to complete the forms with you then, once signed, submit them to the Office of the Public Guardian in Birmingham.
* Means-tested grants are available for adaptations to your home to help people living with dementia – check Wakefield MDC.
* If you are purchasing from certain websites for items for a person living with dementia you may be exempt from paying VAT.
* If adaptations are being made to your home you should qualify for VAT relief – check HMRC website – consult notice 701/7 VAT relief for disabled people – short form for customer to complete and also part for supplier to complete.
* People of pensionable age with a dementia diagnosis qualify for Attendance Allowance (which is not means tested). Apply to Department of Work and Pensions. Also, you may qualify for 25% reduction on council tax. Apply to Wakefield MDC. People under pensionable age with a dementia diagnosis need to apply for PIP (Personal Independent Payment) – apply to Department of Work and Pensions.

**Unpaid carers**

* Consider registering with [Carers Wakefield](https://www.carerswakefield.org.uk/), they can provide support to help you manage your caring responsibilities. They can also help you complete a contingency plan in case you become unwell.
* [Tide](https://www.tide.uk.net/) (Together In Dementia Everyday) are another organisation to support you.
* Make sure to tell your GP practice that you are an unpaid carer. They will add this to your patient record, which will help you access a flu vaccine.
* For more information about unpaid carers in West Yorkshire visit [West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership](https://www.wypartnership.co.uk/our-priorities/unpaid-carers)’s website.
* Chipolo fobs are useful to attach to keys, glasses, etc – can be purchased from various sources – cost around £22. Lost items can be traced via mobile phone.