

Examples Of Telecare In Action



Case Study – Home Safety



Client Profile:

Mrs B. aged 70 suffered from Alzheimers and lived alone. Her son was concerned as she had three times left the taps running in the sink in the bathroom with the plug in. This had resulted each time in the ceiling in the flat below collapsing. Her son was aware that unless something could be done to alert if this happened again her increasing forgetfulness would result in her having to move into a residential care home. He believed that to take her out of the environment she was used to would have a detrimental affect on her well being and could result in a rapid decline in her condition.

Role of Telecare:

Her son was put in contact with the local telecare team who went with him to visit his mother. The assessment recommended a flood detector on the floor by the bathroom sink to act as an early warning if the taps being left on caused an overflow. Whilst in the property the team noticed that Mrs B had burnt the toast and was unaware of this even when prompted as it remained under the lit grill. It was apparent that she might also struggle to exit the property if a fire took hold and would certainly have been very confused if this happened. It was therefore suggested that the addition of telecare smoke detectors as well as the flood detector would greatly enhance her safety and also reduce the risk to others in the building.

Outcome:

The telecare equipment was installed and Mrs B was able to continue living in her own home for a further 9 months before her worsening condition dictated that she needed a residential care placement. During these 9 months which her family saw as a bonus, which slowed the advance of her condition, there were no further incidences of flooding.