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Building Telecare in England - The Preventative Technology Grant
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Specialist telecare services are now moving from local pilots into mainstream services as organisations build on the capacity and infrastructure of community alarms and explore the potential of telehealth (eg vital signs monitoring) in supporting people with long term conditions.

Between 2006 and 2008, the Government will be making £80 million available to social services departments to support implementation.
Local authorities covering housing and social services need to be working with health trusts, independent and voluntary organisations to plan for improved services that will support people at home and help maintain independence.

In July 2005, the Department of Health published 'Building Telecare in England' which sets out the background and general direction for telecare. This will be followed in early 2006 by the grant allocations to social services departments.

The Department of Health documents are supplemented by a Telecare Implementation Guide and numerous factsheets prepared by the Care Services Improvement Partnership. For links to all of the publications go to www.icesdoh.org/telecare.

The session covers 1) Building Telecare in England 2) arrangements for the grant and 3) how organisations can reduce the lead time for local implementation.