

Partners' Council briefing March 2009



For your information

EasyRead Version

What the government says about social care work



Options for Excellence is a report written by the Department of Health and the Department for Education and Skills. It is part of a big government study of social care.



This report says that more social care workers are needed, and they need to get better training and be supported better in their jobs.



To read the report, go to:

www.tinyurl.com/optionsforexcellence



Social Care workers for adults

Putting People First is a plan to make big changes to the way social care is given. All parts of the government, with the help of SCIE, will work together on this plan.



The plan will help people to live the way they want, with good services to support them.



To read the plan, go to:

www.tinyurl.com/PeopleFirstPaper



Social Care workers for children

Every Child Matters: Change for Children is a plan to make all services fit the needs of children better. Part of this plan is to make social care services better for children.

To learn more, go to:

www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/aims

or



www.cwdcouncil.org.uk



Some facts about social care workers

- 7 out of every 10 social care workers work for private or voluntary organisations



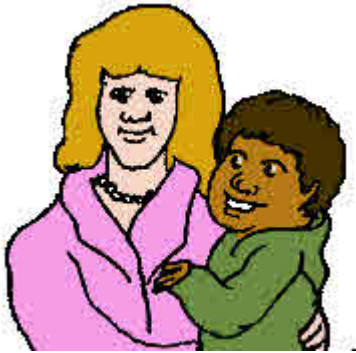
- 35,000 different organisations give care



- most organisations that give care have less than 10 workers



- more than 1.5 million people are social care workers



- more than half a million people do social care work for children



- because of changes to how people live in England, we will need 1 million more social care workers by the year 2020



- 9 out of every 11 social care workers are women



- most social care workers don't have all the skills they might need.

Important Social Care Worker Groups



There are 6 groups that work with social care services to make sure workers are trained well and give the best care they can give:



- Skills for Care

www.tinyurl.com/aboutskillsforcare



- Care Council for Wales

www.ccwales.org.uk



- Children's Workforce Development Council

www.cwdcouncil.org.uk



- **General Social Care Council**
www.gscc.org.uk/Home



- **Northern Ireland Social Care Council**
www.niscc.info



- **Scottish Social Services Council**
www.sssc.uk.com/Homepage.htm



These 6 groups together make up the **UK Skills for Care and Development Sector Skills Council**. This Council works right across the UK to make sure that social care is the best it can be.



The Council works closely with carers, service users, people who give training and health services.

To learn more, go to:



www.tinyurl.com/UKSkills



SCIE's work in this area

To make social care services better, the people who give services must want to work hard and learn new skills.



Workers should be supported to think of better ways to do their jobs, and helped to see when they need to find new ways of working.



SCIE also wants to make the people in charge of social care better at what they do. A National Skills Academy will help with this.



National Skills Academy for Social Care is a training network for the 1.5 million social care workers in the UK.



Most of the training will be aimed at medium-sized and small care groups without much money.



The Academy will train all sorts of care workers and managers, from public and private companies to people with personal budgets.

September 2009						
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The Academy is still being planned and set up, but it should open in the autumn of 2009.



For more information, visit the website:



People Management

Finding and keeping workers is a problem for a lot of social care companies.



SCIE can help with this problem by giving support to companies so that they have a better plan for working.



SCIE can also teach company bosses better ways to lead their staff. This can help make work less expensive by keeping workers from changing jobs.



SCIE gives bosses tools they can use to measure how well their company is working.

If it turns out that their company isn't working as well as it could be, SCIE will help the bosses make the right changes.



For more information, go to:

www.tinyurl.com/peoplemanagement



Helping company leaders get better

SCIE and the Department of Health help to pay for projects to train leaders of social care companies.



For more information about these projects, go to:

www.tinyurl.com/scieleadership



One of these projects is the **Leadership Development Programme**. This project helps bosses lead their groups and companies through the new changes to social care services.



This year's Leadership Development Programme is open to managers of adult social care services, service users, and carers who order and pay for services.



For more information, go to:

www.tinyurl.com/scie-ldp



Social Work Education

SCIE's social work training can also support people to get their university degree in social work.



The training can also help teachers and professors to plan good ways to teach social care to their students.



For more information, go to:

www.tinyurl.com/scieeducation



Getting service users and carers involved in social work training

SCIE has asked Sussex University and Shaping Our Lives to look at service users and carers views on how to get them involved in training workers.



SCIE is also working on a web tool to support service users and carers to be a part of social work training.



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