

Eastern Learning and Development Network – 3rd of June 2025



Good morning and welcome!
The Network will begin at 10am.





On this squirrel scale, how do you feel today?



Agenda

- **10:00 - 10:10 Welcome and introductions – Becci Metcalfe**
- **10:10 – 11.10 Sector Qualifications Review –Cheryl Cox,
Skills for Care**
- **11:15 - 11:35 Skills for Care Update - Sara Harris**
- **11:35 - 11:50 Challenges & Opportunities – Becci Metcalfe**
- **11:50 – 12:00 2025/26 Network Topics – Becci Metcalfe**
- **12:00 Close**

Sector Qualifications Review



Cheryl Cox – National Workforce Capability Lead, Skills for Care



Level 3 Adult Care Diploma and Level 5 in Leading and Managing an Adult Care Service

- Skills for Care are currently reviewing the Level 3 Diploma in Adult Care and the Level 5 Diploma in Leading and Managing an Adult Care Service.



- **Level 3 Diploma in Adult Care**

- **Topic's**

- Effective communication
- Handling Information
- Person Centered Practices
- Choice and independence
- Health and wellbeing
- Personal development



- **Level 5 Diploma in Leading and Managing an Adult Care Service**



- **Topic's**

- Safeguarding
- Mental Capacity
- Communication
- Handling Information
- Person Centered Practices
- Personal development
- Personal wellbeing



- **Opportunity to have your say!**
- **The aim is to ensure these qualifications remain relevant and effective for both the current and future workforce.**
- **Your feedback will play a vital role in refining these qualifications to better meet sector needs.**
- **The time it takes to complete the survey will vary depending on which qualifications and topic areas you choose to review. You're welcome to complete both surveys and select as many topic areas as you wish. Skills for Care greatly appreciates your input.**
- **Please submit your response by 17:00 on Sunday 15 June 2025.**

- [MDM TS Level 3 and 5 qualification consultation](#)

- **Sector qualifications**

- **Assessment principles**

- We're also looking at the guiding assessment principles for qualifications.
- Assessment principles help to create a consistent approach to the delivery, assessment and internal quality assurance of qualifications in the sector.
- They also help to support awarding organisations quality assurance processes e.g. in the external quality assurance process.
- We currently have two sets of guiding assessment principles for qualifications in the sector, they are:
- [Skills for Care & Development Assessment principles](#)
- [Skills for Care JABQG Additional Assessment Principles guidance Jan 2024 003](#)

Skills for Care



Learning and Development Update

Sara Harris - Locality Manager, Skills for Care



- **Adult Social Care Learning and Development Support Scheme (LDSS)**
- **Learning and development improves retention and quality of care**
- The Department of Health and Social Care is pleased to confirm that the LDSS will continue in financial year 2025 to 2026. The scheme will continue to support adult social care employers to invest in learning and development for their staff, by providing a financial contribution towards the costs of training.
- Updated information, including guidance for employers and a list of courses and qualifications eligible for funding can be found on the [Government website](#)
- The LDSS will continue to be administered by NHSBSA via the [online claims service](#)
- For any queries, please email ASCReimbursement@dhsc.gov.uk

- **Adult Social Care Workforce Data Set (ASC-WDS)**

- **Benefits to your business**

- Become eligible to claim LDSS funding for your staff
- Safe and free storage of staff records
- Manage training records
- Benchmark your workplace
- Access the ASC-WDS Benefits Bundle
- Make your voice heard!

- **Find out more:** www.skillsforcare.org.uk/ascdws

• Quality Assured Care Learning Service

- **A key part of selecting the right learning and development for your organisation is finding the right training provider and course/qualification**
 - Skills for Care is delivering DHSC's Quality Assured Care Learning Service (QACLS). This service will help you find high-quality learning and is intended to be a route to funding through the DHSC's Learning and Development Support Scheme (LDSS).
 - On our website, you can access a [spreadsheet](#) of all the training providers, courses and accredited qualifications that have been quality assured through the new QACLS. Find out more about the [QA service for training providers](#).
 - The Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training on Learning Disability and Autism is also quality assured through the QACLS. The purpose of quality assuring Oliver's Training is to ensure that there is a list of quality assured training providers who can demonstrate they can deliver Oliver's Training to the ASC workforce against a bespoke framework. It is not a route to funding through the LDSS.

- **Level 2 Adult Social Care Certificate (L2ASCC)**

An accredited qualification designed to provide a baseline standard to care, reduce the need for repeat training and give recognition to our care workforce. Ofqual-regulated, requiring workplace assessment, completed in 6–8 months (or less), claim £1500 LDSS funding.

Find out more: www.skillsforcare.org.uk/CareCertificateQual

Updated Care Certificate Standards

The Care Certificate Standards have been updated to align with sector developments and the introduction of the L2ASCC.

The standards define the knowledge, skills and behaviours expected of specific job roles in health and social care. They can be used to inform what information is covered during induction.

A self-assessment tool and an assessor and employer guide are available to support the standards. There is also a summary of the updates and a set of FAQs.

[See the updated standards](#)

- **New leadership programme for registered managers – RM12**
- **A practical, 12-month online development programme for registered managers in social care.**

With just three hours a month, you'll gain expert-led insights, real-world strategies, and peer support to build your confidence and strengthen your leadership.

Each session will focus on different topics such as, supervision and goal setting, effective communication and conflict resolution, equity in leadership and managing change.

Designed for busy managers, RM12 cuts through the jargon to focus on what works - giving you tools you can use right away. It's more than a leadership programme - it's a space for reflection, growth, and shared learning.

- RM12 starts on Tuesday 1 July. Register by 17:00 on Friday 13 June 2025. £1,500 +VAT

• New registered manager webinars

New managers – What resources and support are available

Thursday 5 June | 14:00 – 15:00 | Zoom

This webinar is aimed at all new frontline managers of adult social care services – it will introduce how Skills for Care can support you and what resources are available.

You'll hear about practical ways to recruit, develop, and lead your teams, as well as how to further your own development and different ways to connect with peer support and local expertise. We'll also signpost you to practical support available to help you meet the Care Quality Commission expectations.

[Register now](#)

Managing risk - Good and best practice approaches for CQC regulated providers

Thursday 26 June | 10:00 – 11:00 | Zoom

Presented in partnership with The Outstanding Society, this webinar will explore how residential, homecare, and learning disability/autism services manage risk in their day-to-day operations. Drawing on insights from recent CQC assessments, the webinar will highlight what providers need to do to meet regulatory expectations. It will also feature practical tips, recommendations, and advice from services rated Outstanding.

[Register now](#)

- **Care workforce pathway**

- **New role categories and resources to help you use the pathway**

Role categories

New to Care
Care or Support Worker
Enhanced care worker
Personal Assistant
Supervisor or leader
Practice Leader
Deputy Manager
Registered Manager

They describe:

- Universal values
- Behaviours
- Knowledge and skills
- Learning and development

Supporting resources

Guide to adopting the pathway
Templates and checklists for how to approach implementation
Job mapping template
Skills self-assessments
Careers conversations toolkit
Development plan template

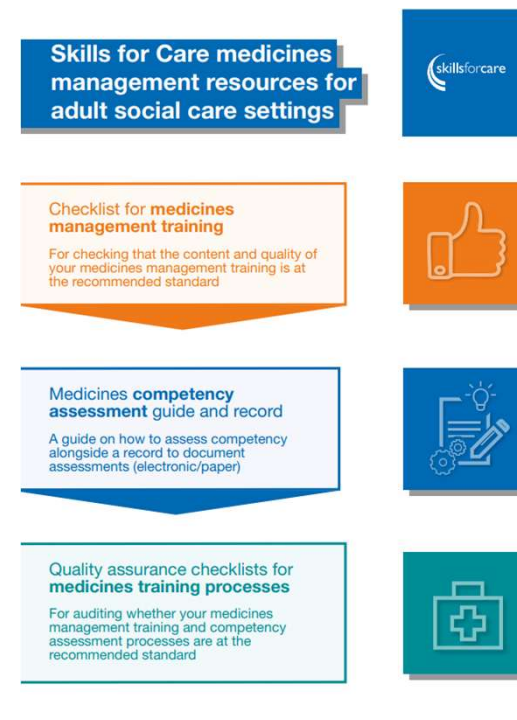
- [Find out more about the Care Workforce Pathway.](#)

- **New medicines management resources**

- **Resources and support for adult social care providers with medicines management**

- The resources have been developed for people who are responsible for purchasing and/or checking the quality of external or in-house medicines management training for care workers and managers.
- Explore new medicines management guidance and checklists, developed to support care providers to assess their medicines management education and training to ensure that it is safe and effective.
- You can also discover signposting and advice for meeting CQC expectations in this area.

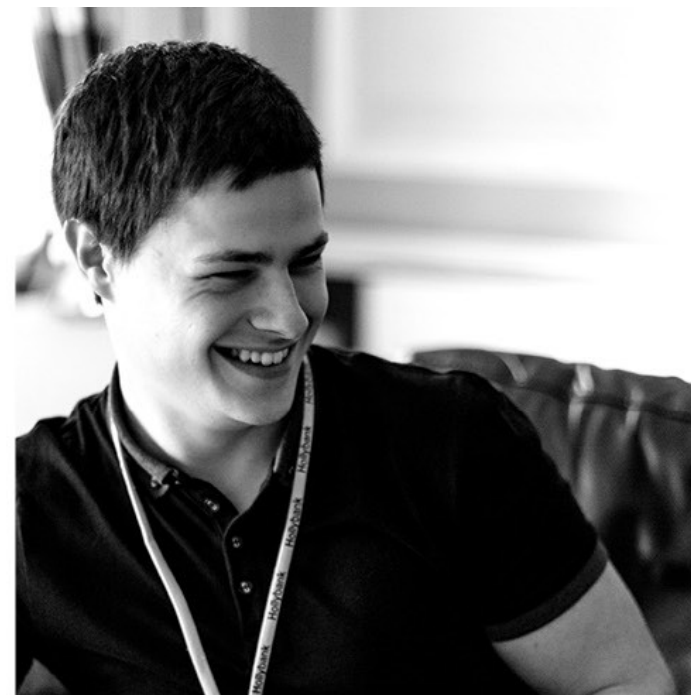
- [Visit the webpage](#)



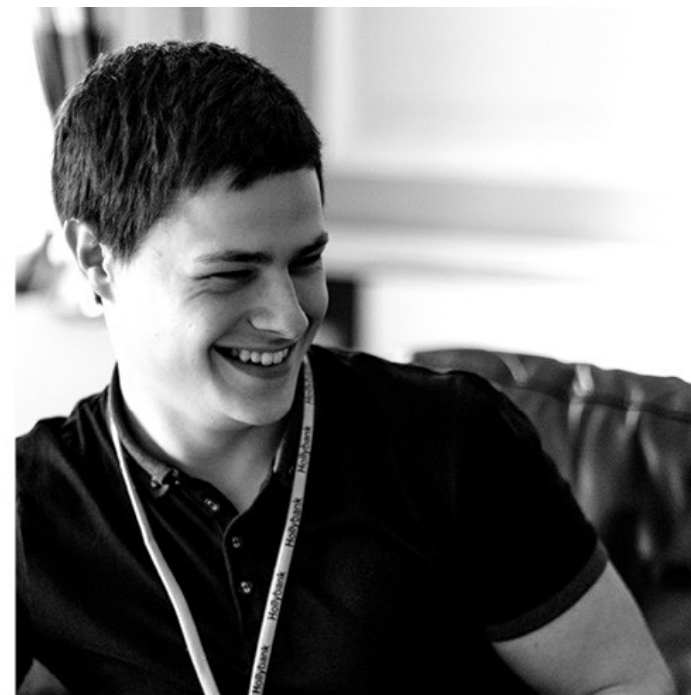
- **National induction for health and social care**
- **Skills for Care and NHS England have created free-to-access induction materials for anyone new to a role in health and social care**
- The 'National induction for health and social care' brings together virtual learning modules and resources to equip new starters with a clear understanding of health and social care, helping to build a sense of belonging and support retention.
- It introduces different subjects important to social care, such as how to deliver personalised care, why we have regulation, what roles we might come across in our work and what they do.
- All content is available online to use as part of your induction or as a refresher for existing staff, alongside your organisation specific induction.
- [Find out more](#)

- **Share your experience**
- **We're looking for case studies, quotes or potential speakers**
- **DHSC initiatives:** including Care Workforce Pathway, the L2 Care Certificate qualification or the Learning and Development Support Scheme.
 - Help DHSC initiatives achieve maximum impact and ensure continued positive interventions.
- **Impact of Skills for Care:** tell us how Skills for Care's networks, resources or support have positively impacted your service.
 - Help evidence the value of Skills for Care and ensure continued support.
- **Good practice examples:** in workforce development, recruitment and retention, the use of digital technology, staff wellbeing support or delegated healthcare activities and prevention.
 - Help others learn from your experience and enhance quality and reputation of adult social care.

Challenges & Opportunities!



2025/26 Network Topics



**ANY
QUESTIONS?**



Keep in touch!

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Eastern Learning and Development Network - WhatsApp group

Please let us know if you would like to join the WhatsApp group, and we can add you.



Thank you