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• Skills for Care – Update

- Becci Metcalfe – Locality Manager
- October 2025

- **#DataDrivesChange campaign**
- **Throughout October we're focusing on how data drives change in social care**
- **Our 'Data Drives Change' spotlight will highlight the powerful role data plays in increasing the understanding of social care and shaping decisions for the sector.**
- We'll be sharing information and real-life examples of how data is being used across social care, the influence it has on social care policy, and how you can use data to support business planning, people management and decision making in your organisation.
- [Visit our campaign landing page to find out more](#) – Website live on Wednesday 1 October



- **Size and structure report**
- **Skills for Care has launched its annual 'Size and structure of the adult social care sector and workforce in England' report**

- **Key findings include:**

- The report found that the adult social care sector has continued to grow between April 2024 and March 2025, despite a significant fall in the number of international recruits.
 - The new figures show that the vacancy rate for 2024/25 fell to 7%. This was a return to similar levels seen prior to 2021/22, when the rate had peaked at 10.5%. The number of filled posts grew by 3.4% to 1.6 million.
 - It's now estimated that there are 1.47m people working in adult social care in England.
- [Take a look at the report](#)



- **State of the adult social care sector and workforce in England 2025 report**

- **Thursday 23 October 2025 | 09:30 - 11:30 | Online**

- Join us for a regionally focused look at our newly published 'The state of the adult social care sector and workforce in England' 2025 report.
- Discover what the latest data in the report is telling us about the adult social care workforce in your area and explore the benefits of data at a regional, system and local level.
- You'll also have the opportunity to join a regional breakout room for a discussion on what the data is telling us in your area.
- [Register now](#)

- **New placement strategy for social care nursing**
- **Skills for Care is proud to launch the first-ever national placement strategy for social care nursing**

Developed in collaboration with the Council of Deans of Health, it aims to position social care as a placement of choice for all student nurses and nursing associates.

It offers care providers and higher education institutions recommendations for how to deliver high-quality, consistent placement experiences.

[Read the strategy and see how you can get involved](#)



- **New preceptorship package to strengthen social care nursing workforce**
- **Preceptorship programmes are a vital part of the support required to recruit and retain registered nurses and nursing associates who are new to the NMC register.**
- Join us for these free sessions where you'll pick up practical guidance and resources to run a successful preceptorship programme.
 - [Preceptorship lead workshop](#) – for experienced nursing staff looking to lead on preceptorship | September, October and November dates available | 11:30 – 13:00
 - [New to role preceptor workshop](#) - preceptorship role in practice | September, October and November dates available | three-hour workshop
- The [Introduction to preceptorship](#) session for organisations took place on Wednesday 3 September and is available to watch.

- Overview of the mandatory training requirement on learning disability and autism: What you need to know about the Code of Practice

- **Thursday 13 November 2025 | 14:30 – 16:00 |
Online**

- Join us for this webinar as we share an overview of the Oliver McGowan Code of Practice, which outlines how Care Quality Commission (CQC) registered providers can meet the statutory training on learning disability and autism appropriate to their staffs' roles.
- We will be joined by the Department of Health and Social Care and CQC, where we will explain what the Code of Practice covers, provide an overview of Oliver's Training, detail what support is available and describe how the CQC will use the Code of Practice and considering compliance with the learning disability and autism training requirement.
- [Register now](#)

- **Preparing for change: exploring the Mental Health Act reforms**



- **Wednesday 22 October 2025 | 10:00 - 16:00 | Manchester**

- At this in-person event, we'll explore how we expect the reforms will affect autistic people, people who have a learning disability, and their families, and the communities and the services that support them.
- We'll hear from people who have experience of the Mental Health Act in their lives. There will be opportunities to explore how the reforms are likely to affect your work and to network with colleagues to get ready for the changes.
- [Register now](#)

- **New: All Our Health eLearning**
- **Discover this free eLearning module tailored for adult social care professionals, focusing on health promotion and preventive practices.**
- Tailored specifically for people who work in adult social care, this eLearning module has ten adult social care public health tips and an underlying theme of prevention.
- Build on your existing knowledge to enhance support quality, with practical guidance on integrating public health approaches into daily care routines.
- This free eLearning module is available now, developed by All Our Health.
- [Find out more](#)

All OUR Health

- **The care exchange**
- **Our podcast series which celebrates managers in social care is celebrating over 25,000 downloads!**

Listen to real conversations with social care managers from across the sector

- Our podcasts are hosted by locality managers Pia Rathje-Burton and Wendy Adams. Hear real-life insights into being a manager in social care including best practices, experiences and top tips which will inspire your own approach to being a registered manager.

New episode: I love audits

Hear from Adam Purnell, a Quality Assurance Manager at Bayswood Care Home who explains the importance of his role in ensuring compliance with regulations and improving care quality. He shares why knowing the regulations are so vital and how making actions SMART drives real change.





Find out more

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