

Adult Social Care Workforce Data Set (ASC-WDS)



Provider information workshop

Thursday 22nd May 2025

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Provider information workshop

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The purpose of the workshop is to:

- Provide you with more information about the Adult Social Care Workforce Data Set (ASC-WDS)
- Explain why the sector needs it
- Tell you about the benefits of using it
- Tell you about the support available
- Provide information about the Adult Social Care Learning and Development Support Scheme (LDSS) and how to claim
- Let you know about some of the other workforce support initiatives provided by Leeds City Council

Adult Social Care Workforce Data Set (ASC-WDS)

ASC-WDS is a free online service which helps you to manage your team and provides crucial information to decision makers

Benefits to your business

- Become eligible to claim 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/ascwds

6 reasons to open an ASC-WDS account



They are:

1. Offers and discounts

All users of the service have access to the ASC-WDS Benefits Bundle which gives access to special offers and discounts across our products including:

10% off values-based interviewing and valuable conversations bespoke seminars

10% off eLearning modules from Skills for Care.

2. Benchmark your businesses performance

Benchmark your workplace against others offering the same service in your local authority area. Access information about how your service is performing on workforce metrics such as staff turnover, care worker pay and staff sickness.

6 reasons to open an ASC-WDS account



Continued:

3. Record training and qualifications data

Search, record and manage mandatory training by job role and get alerted to make updates and fill gaps in your training. Training reports also help you to evidence that you're fully up to date with your staff training during inspections.

4. Provide intelligence to decision makers

Provide data to Government, DHSC and local authorities. The workforce is central to the adult social care sector. It determines the quality of care experienced, the success of care providers and the funding needed. So it's vital that we understand the workforce and the issues affecting it.

6 reasons to open an ASC-WDS account

Continued:

5. Access to funding for training and qualifications for your staff

The new [Adult Social Care Learning and Development Support Scheme](#) (LDSS) is only available to care providers with an ASC-WDS account. Claim for a wide range of [training courses and qualifications](#). ASC-WDS includes an eligibility checker so you can easily check if you can claim.

6. Store and access key information about your workforce

Create individual staff records that store personal details and other information and access them all in one place.

The latest adult social care workforce and intelligence reports can be found here.

[Workforce intelligence](#)

Join the 20,000 care providers already using the free ASC-WDS service and discover all the benefits it provides.

Create an ASC-WDS account

Creating an ASC-WDS account is really simple and takes just five minutes.

[Create an account](#)

[Login](#)

If you're having any difficulties logging in or setting up an account, please contact our support team for help

Call: 0113 241 0969 | Email: ascwds-support@skillsforcare.org.uk

[Adult Social Care Workforce Data Set](#)

Want to know more



Take a virtual tour of the ASC-WDS Tuesday 10 June | 10:30 - 11.30 | Zoom

Join the Skills for Care webinar designed to give social care providers a demonstration of how the Adult Social Care Workforce Data Set (ASC-WDS) service works. It will be a practical run-through of the service and show you first-hand the key features and benefits which are already being used by over 20,000 care providers.

[⇒ Register now](#)

The Learning & Development Support Scheme



The LDSS is part of a wider context of workforce support projects being delivered in collaboration with the sector. These include:

- Care Workforce Pathway – launched in January 2024, expanded edition published April 2025. The latest version is here [The Care Workforce Pathway](#)
- Level 2 Adult Social Care Certificate available to book, funding available to eligible employers via the LDSS
- Quality Assured Care Learning Service applications open to eligible training providers
- Learning and Development Support Scheme – open to claims
- Adult Social Care Skills Record– in development

What is the Adult Social Care Learning and Development Support Scheme (LDSS)?

Launched in September 2024 by the Department of Health and Social Care, the LDSS supports the non-regulated care workforce to complete courses and qualifications by providing a financial contribution to the costs of training.

Why is this funding available? Ensuring the availability of relevant upskilling opportunities for care staff is an essential part of our work to support the professionalisation of the care workforce. By completing courses and qualifications, care workers can gain recognition for their existing expertise, as well as developing new skills and specialisms.

Who can benefit? The non-regulated care workforce can undertake courses and qualifications supported by funding from DHSC. An upskilled workforce can bring recruitment and retention benefits to employers, while improving the quality of care.

Who can claim? Adult social care employers can claim this funding after paying for courses and qualifications for their staff.

Who can access the funding?

LDSS funding can only be used towards courses and qualifications undertaken by eligible staff, who must be non-regulated members of the care workforce in England.

- **This includes care staff, deputy and Care Quality Commission-registered managers, and agency staff**
- **Those without British citizenship are eligible as long as they have a UK national insurance number and are legally employed in England.**

Funding must be claimed by an employer of eligible staff. The employer must meet the following criteria:

- provide an adult social care service
- directly employ care staff in England
- have an up-to-date account on the Adult Social Care Workforce Data Set (ASC-WDS)

There is no requirement for care providing organisations to be CQC registered to claim from this fund.

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 has confirmed 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

Leeds City Council Supporting You and Your Workforce



Recent developments and introductions:

A screenshot of a web browser displaying the Leeds City Council website. The browser's address bar shows 'https://asctraining.leeds.gov.uk'. The website has a dark blue header with the 'LEEDS.GOV.UK' logo and a search bar. Below the header, there is a navigation menu with links: 'Courses', 'Training for managers and supervisors', 'Recruitment information', 'Social care careers', 'Our work', 'News', and 'Sign in to PAL'. The main content area features a large image of a person in a blue uniform pointing at a screen, with a dark blue overlay containing the text 'Adult Social Care recruitment, training, and development'. Below this, a smaller box titled 'Find training courses' invites users to browse a directory of free and paid training courses. The bottom of the page shows a small image of two men talking.

[Home](#) | [Adult Social Care recruitment, training, and development](#)

Leeds Adult Social Care Workforce Strategy 2025-30

This strategy is for everyone working in social care in Leeds. It sets out our vision, acknowledges the shared challenges we face and the strong foundations on which we are building. It gives clear workforce priorities for the next 5 years. Each year we will review our action plans to make sure we are making progress and remain focussed on the activities that will make the biggest difference.



Key Actions 2025 to 2027



#1 STRATEGIC WORKFORCE PLANNING

- Update and share a **'State of the Leeds Social Care'** dataset for the city wide workforce
- Understand **current vacancy levels across the city**, the impact they have and create attraction plans to address them
- Set out the vision and share learning around **new roles and new models of delivery** in Leeds
- Agree ways for all partners to feed into a Leeds sector-wide discussion around **Action on Pay**
- Deliver a campaign **'the positive side of social care in Leeds'** to promote all that is good about our people and sector

#2 GROWING AND DEVELOPING THE WORKFORCE TO MEET FUTURE DEMAND

- Refresh **career progression pathways** and set out what good learning and development looks like, including **apprenticeships**
- Review our approaches around **mandatory training** and explore ways to improve quality, delivery and affordability
- Strike the right **balance between international and domestic recruitment**, and ensure all recruitment is **ethical**
- Provide improved training and peer support for **Volunteers, Personal Assistants and Direct Payment holders**
- Strengthen our development pathways for **Social Work, Nursing and Occupational Therapy**

#3 ENHANCING THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY

- Raise awareness of **digital tools available in social care** and give people the **skills and confidence** to use them
- Encourage and support use of the **Adult Social Care Digital Skills framework**
- Build networks of **digital leaders and digital champions** to embed technology and improve the delivery of care and support

#4 WELLBEING OF THE WORKFORCE

- **Improve wellbeing** by clarifying what guidance, training and support is on offer and ensuring take up is high
- Create **more networks and better peer support** to help people with the demanding nature of social care roles
- Increase the number of **working carers who receive support and training from their employer**

#5 SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

- Build plans to attract **more men, younger people and those with technical skills** into our workforce, alongside existing efforts to create diverse, representative and inclusive workplaces
- Embed our learning around **race equality and anti-racist practice**
- Share **inclusive recruitment** guidance and good practice

#6 INCLUSIVE AND COMPASSIONATE LEADERSHIP

- Improve learning and development for **people stepping into management** and **those progressing into senior leadership roles**
- Strengthen **behaviours and relationships** that support **integrated and collaborative working**
- Make **EDI and Wellbeing central themes** for management development programmes

Leeds City Council Supporting You and Your Workforce



Workforce Development Updates

Leeds ASC Workforce Development Update



May 2025

Workforce development update

Welcome to your May 2025 Workforce Development Update from Leeds City Council's Organisational and Workforce Development Service. This edition is the first to use a new format, many of the articles have a link to our new website where you will find more topical insights and information. In this edition you will find important news, updates, and information on some of the current topics, support, and training opportunities.

Featured in this edition:

- Upcoming adult social care training sessions and events
- The Leadership Academy
- Funding opportunities
- Leeds Registered Manager Network
- Recruitment and retention
- What's new this month:
 - Skills for Care Update
 - Leeds Adult Safeguarding Board
- ASC Recruitment, Training, Development website link

Virtual coffee and a chat

Next month we will start monthly 'coffee and a chat' sessions

Short on-line sessions where we can get together to talk about what's new, what's hot and the workforce support that's available to you.



Contact information

For any further information on anything covered today, or for general enquiries

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