

HOW DOES THE SSSC REGULATE THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF SOCIAL SERVICE WORKERS?

We work with agencies and partners including people who use services, employers, higher and further education providers, other UK regulatory bodies, training organisations, sector skills councils and the workforce. Together, we make sure that education and training is consistent and meets the high standards needed to deliver quality services. For more information on this aspect of our work go to our website: www.sssc.uk.com

CAREER INFORMATION

The SSSC provides information for people who are interested in a career in social services and can help those already working in the sector. We can provide information for people looking to start working in social care services, such as nurseries, care homes and in the community. We also help people who want to become social workers providing information on starting the degree or postgraduate degree in social work.

Visit the SSSC website for information on a career in social services: www.sssc.uk.com

If you already work in social services our website provides lots of information on the direction you can take, details on job roles and qualifications etc.

- > **Career Development** resource (for workers in all types of services)
- > **Early Years and Child Care** resource (for workers in nurseries, after school clubs, crèches etc.)
- > **Care and Support Services** resource (for workers in social work, social care and housing support services)
- > **Preparing for Practice** (induction guidance for employers and workers).

SKILLS FOR CARE AND DEVELOPMENT (SFC&D)

Our vision is for a competent, confident and valued workforce capable of delivering high standards of care to meet the demands of the 21st century. As the sector skills council for the social service sector in Scotland, we work with our partners to:

- > improve and develop the workforce
- > identify skills gaps and shortages
- > provide information on workforce development opportunities
- > achieve a better understanding of the funding available for training.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



SCOTTISH SOCIAL SERVICES COUNCIL

A GUIDE TO THE

To find out more please contact us:
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Compass House, 11 Riverside Drive, Dundee DD1 4NY

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If you would like to request this document in another format or language, please contact the SSSC using the details above.

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WHAT IS THE SCOTTISH SOCIAL SERVICES COUNCIL?

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) is responsible for registering people who work in social services and regulating their education and training. This leaflet will tell you about the work of the SSSC, registration of the workforce and what our work means to people who use services such as nurseries, care homes and housing support.

Our role is to raise standards of practice, strengthen and support the workforce and increase the protection of people who use services.

WHAT WE DO:

- > set up registers of key groups of social service staff
- > publish **Codes of Practice** for all social service workers and their employers
- > regulate the training and education of the workforce
- > promote education and training
- > undertake the functions of the sector skills council; Skills for Care and Development, this includes workforce planning and development.

ABOUT THE SOCIAL SERVICE WORKFORCE

There are over 198,000 social service workers in Scotland today working in a range of settings with a variety of different people who use services. Social service workers include people working in social work and social care, such as care home services for adults and children/young people in the community and early years settings such as nurseries or out of school care clubs.

REGISTRATION

The SSSC registers key groups of Scotland's social service workers. Registration of these workers has an important role in improving safeguards for people using services and increasing public confidence in the sector.

Registering social service workers gives people who use services and their carers confidence in the staff delivering their social services. It also recognises the value that people doing these jobs bring. Workers need to gain qualifications and develop their skills throughout their careers just as their colleagues in nursing, teaching and other professions do. Registration brings a badge of quality which demonstrates the commitment and skills workers bring.

WHO MUST REGISTER WITH THE SSSC

- > social workers
- > students on the social work honours degree and postgraduate programmes
- > Care Commission officers
- > all workers in residential child care services (this includes managers, supervisors and workers)
- > managers of care home services for adults
- > managers of adult day care services
- > all workers in day care of children services
- > all workers in school care accommodation services
- > all other workers in care home services for adults.

WORKERS WHO CAN REGISTER WITH THE SSSC IN THE FUTURE

- > all workers in housing support services
- > managers of care at home services.

To check if a social service worker is registered, or to view the registration requirements including the qualifications set for the groups above, please visit our website: www.sssc.uk.com You can also find out the dates when workers must be registered with the SSSC on our website.

If you work in a service that we are registering at the moment and would like further information, or to request an application pack, please contact the registration team by phoning: **0845 60 30 891** or emailing: registration@sssc.uk.com

SSSC CODES OF PRACTICE

The SSSC's **Codes of Practice for Social Service Workers and Employers** sets out the standards social workers, social care, early years and young people's workers and their employers should meet. By setting out clear standards of conduct for workers, people who use services know what they can expect from their workers.

Everyone we register has to agree to abide by the **Code of Practice for Social Service Workers**. The Codes are available in a variety of languages and formats including Braille and British Sign Language. You can download a copy from our website: www.sssc.uk.com

I USE A SOCIAL SERVICE, WHAT DOES THE SSSC MEAN TO ME?

Everyone in Scotland will use social services at some time in their lives whether it's you that uses a care service, or a family member, such as your child going to nursery or a parent living in a care home.

The SSSC, as the workforce regulator, has a responsibility to plan for a workforce able to meet future demand. Over the next five years over 50,000 social service workers will register with the SSSC for the first time. This will lead to a trained and qualified workforce with the potential to transform social services.

Workforce development and planning, registration and the involvement of people who use services and carers adds value to services and benefits the sector and makes sure that people receive effective services from a safe and skilled workforce.