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The future of adult social care

Adult Social Care Recruitment Campaign

The [Adult Social Care \(ASC\) Recruitment Campaign](#) was officially launched on 3 February 2025 by the Department of Health and Social Care. This campaign will be running through February and March highlighting the amazing work that all staff across the ASC sector do and emphasising the importance in the values required to undertake a career in adult social care.

Guidance and Good Practice

Safe use of bed rails

Bed rails can be an effective way to reduce the risk of people falling out of bed. However, there continues to be incidents relating to bed rails and associated equipment leading to patient harm or death, primarily from entrapment.

Bed rails are medical device which fall under the authority of the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA). In 2023 they updated the [guidance](#) for all users, carers and staff with responsibility for the provision, prescription, use, maintenance and fitting of bed rails. The guidance includes case studies, maintenance checks and risk assessments.

Adult Social Care Learning and Development Support Scheme

On the 5th February, the Department of Health and Social Care published [updated guidance for adult social care employers in England on learning and development support for the financial year 2024 to 2025](#).

The updates include clarification about learning programmes available through training providers licensed by Skills for Care and those directly on the Skills for Care website, and amended funding information for Mental Health First Aid England.

Leicestershire County Council updates

Support at Home – Tender Opportunity

A tender opportunity has been published on ProContract. This tender seeks a single provider to work county-wide to support people with eligible social care needs with their non-personal care related needs, for example cleaning, laundry and befriending. This is a pilot and will initially operate for 12 months.

The tender pack is available on [ProContract](#). The closing date for bids is 17th March 2025.

Consultations and research

Adults and Communities Strategy – Consultation update

The draft [Adults and Communities Strategy 2025-2029](#) has now gone live for consultation.

We now welcome your views on our new draft strategy and invite you to review it and complete the accompanying survey.

There is an adapted version (Easy Read) of the strategy and the survey questions, which you can access on the same page.

These can be printed and shared with people you may support (which we can do on your request, please use the contact details on the page to request this).

This link below will take you to the draft strategy and survey page:

Care home survey

Care homes in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland are encouraged to complete [this survey](#) to better understand training needs across the region. The deadline for completion is 28th March 2025.

Carers Survey – Mental Capacity Assessment Process

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adults Board would like to hear about carers experience of the Mental Capacity Assessment process that they have been involved in for someone they care for

A Microsoft form has been developed containing 5 questions to help understand what the experience was like for individuals and where, if necessary, things need to change to ensure it works well for everyone.

Please share the link below with carers you come into contact with. The form will be available until 21st March.

[Have you taken part in a Mental Capacity Assessment for someone you care for?](#)

If people would prefer to talk to someone about their experience Age UK are holding an event on 11th March 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm at Clarence House, 46 Humberstone Gate, Leicester LE1 3PJ, open to all carers from Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. There will be a short presentation on what a Mental Capacity Assessment is, why it is important to know about people's experiences and a space to talk or ask for help to complete the questionnaire. Refreshments available.

Reminders

Next edition

The next edition of Provider News will be published during week commencing 3 March 2025. If you are interested in contributing by writing about a topic of your choice, perhaps something that is particularly important to you, please contact us at enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk.

Useful links

- [Current and past editions of Leicestershire County Council Provider News](#)
- [Leicestershire County Council adult social care provider conference calls](#)
- [LLR Providing Care – resources, advice, signposting](#)
- [Leicestershire and Leicester Inspired to Care – recruitment and retention support](#)
- [Leicestershire Social Care Development Group \(LSCDG\)](#)