

Northern Ireland

Social

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Council

A Career that Makes a Difference

A Useful Guide to a Career in
Social Work and Social Care



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Who we are, what we do.

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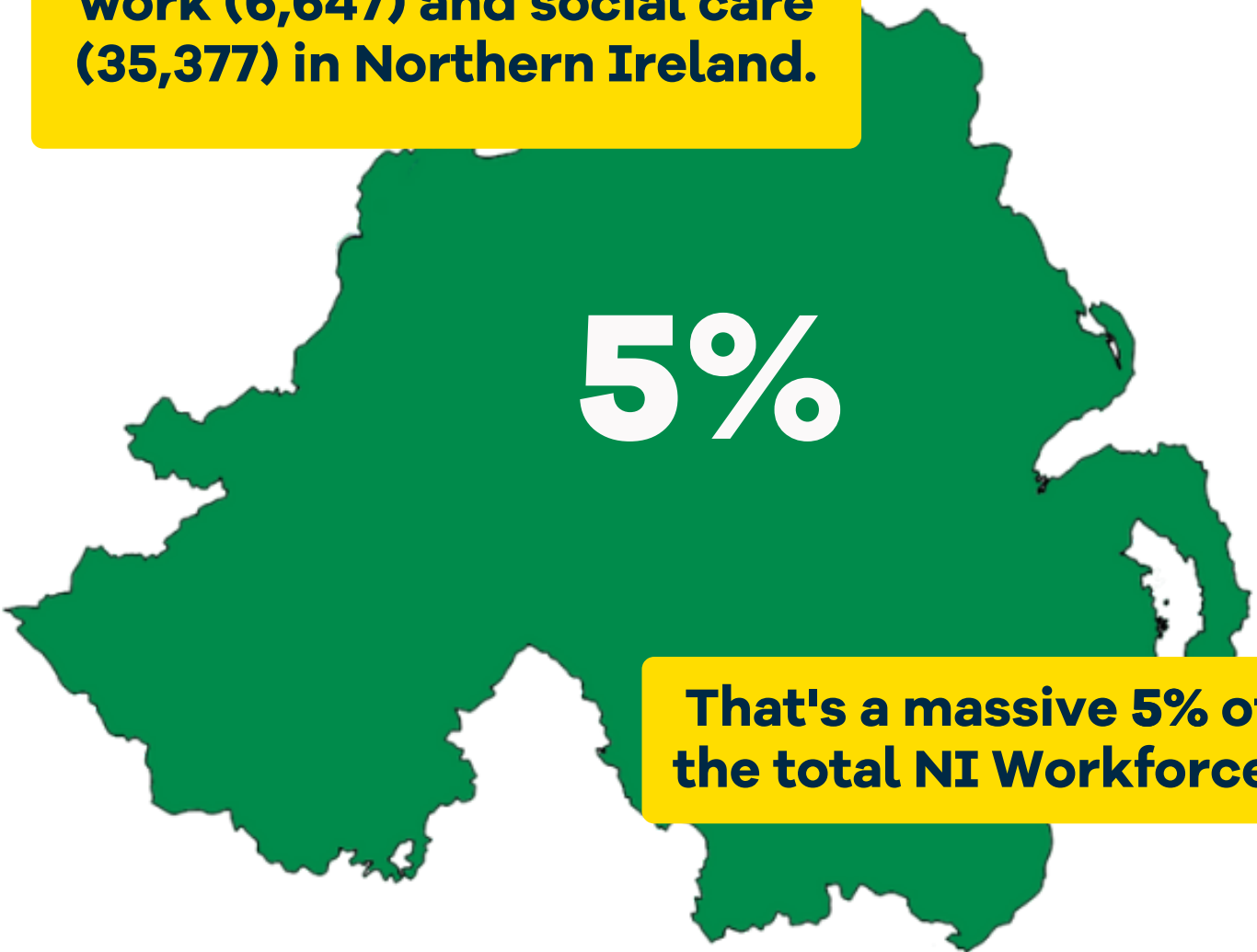
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Did you know?

Over 42,000 people currently work in social work (6,647) and social care (35,377) in Northern Ireland.



5%

That's a massive 5% of the total NI Workforce.

Everyone employed in social work and social care in Northern Ireland must be registered with the Social Care Council.

Considering a Career Social Work?

What is Social Work?

Social work is about people, who for a variety of reasons may need help and support to live well, safely and with dignity. This can be because of the impact of disability, illness, ageing or where there is risk to the safety or wellbeing of children or vulnerable adults.

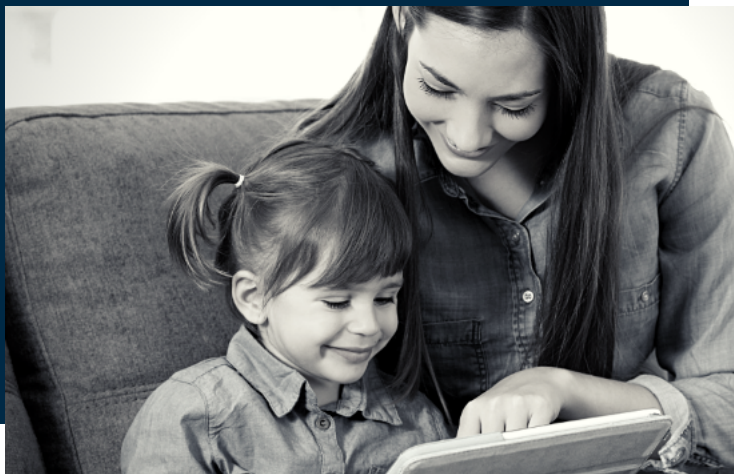
Ciaran shares why social work was the career for him.



Service Users on how social work impacts their lives



When you choose a career in Social Work you will make a positive difference in the lives of children, young people, adults and older people. You will promote social justice in health and social care settings, in education, criminal justice and the voluntary sector.



Find out more

Could Social Care be the Career For You?



Social care workers are individuals who help to support, care for, protect and empower people to live as well and as independently as possible. They deliver a range of practical help and emotional support to individuals, families and communities. Working in social care requires staff to be compassionate, kind and skilled in delivering a quality service to the people being supported.



Watch Our Short Films



Doing What You Enjoy

Gina is a support worker. During her weekly visits with Errol, she encourages him to get out of the house and do the things he enjoys most. For Gina, the reward of being a care worker is seeing the enjoyment in the faces of the people she cares for.



Career Change

After being made redundant from her retail job, just before her 60th birthday, Bernie grasped the opportunity to fulfil her lifetime dream of becoming a social care worker.



A Philosophy of Caring

When Rachel left university, she wanted to make a difference in the world. She achieved that by becoming a support worker for L'Arche Belfast, where she helps people live their lives to the full.

Find More Social Care Stories [Here](#)

Find out more



Degree in Social Work



The Honours Degree in Social Work

The Honours Degree in Social Work (the Degree) is the recognised professional qualification for all social workers, as well as for Probation Officers and Education Welfare Officers in Northern Ireland (NI).

The Degree is recognised across the UK allowing social workers to practise anywhere within the UK providing they have registered with the relevant social care council **The Northern Ireland Framework Specification for the Degree in Social Work provides a framework for the Degree** and is based on the National Occupational Standards for Social Work (2011).

The Degree is a robust beginning to the social work learning journey, enabling you to practice as a social worker and progress to the next stage of the continuous professional development. We know that continuous learning is important to ensure we provide the best service for the people we work with.


[Read more](#)

[Read more](#)

[Read more](#)

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Find all the information you need on pursuing a Degree in Social Work.

[Find out more](#)

Resources



Our Teacher's Pack

We have created a PowerPoint presentation for teachers and students exploring a career in social work and social care.

[Visit here](#)

Inspirational Stories

Arrange a digital zoom call or visit with our Social Care Council Ambassadors. Hear first hand why a career in social work or social care could be for you.

[Find out more](#)



Resources for Employers

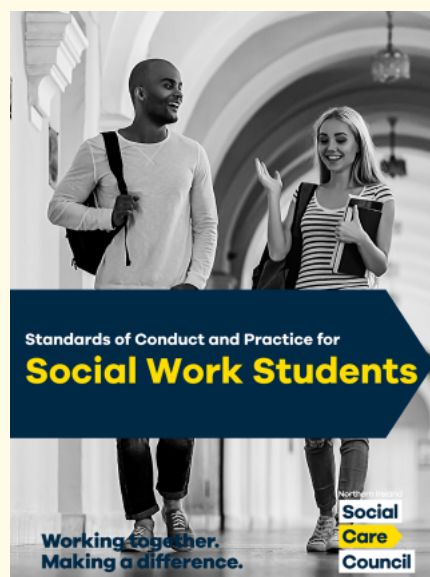
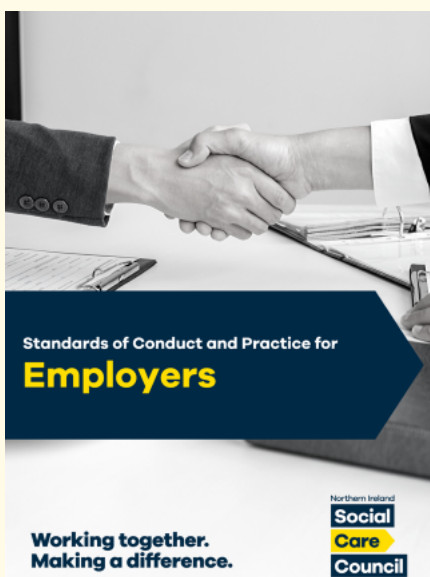
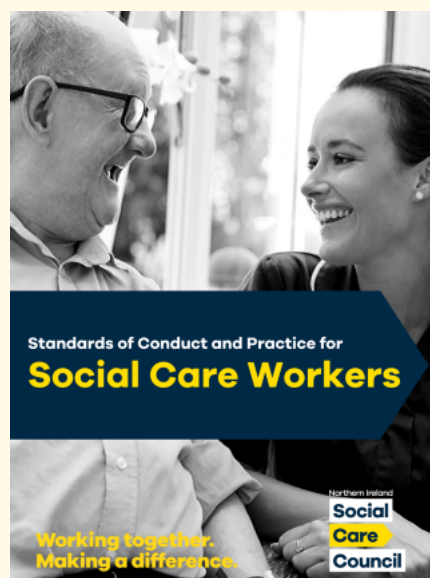
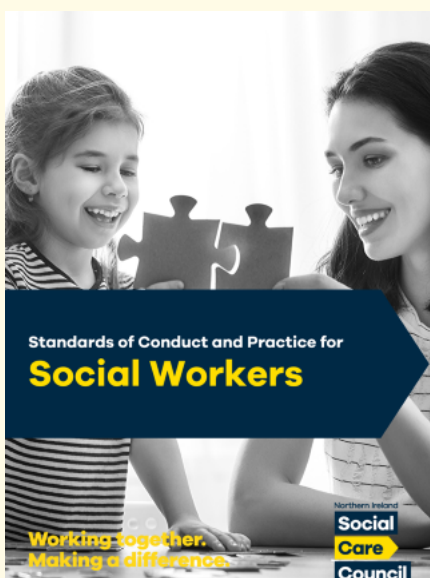
Find all the information about employers and the social care sector.

[Find out more](#)

Our Standards

The Social Care Council's Standards of Conduct and Practice describe the values, attitudes and behaviours expected of our registrants in their day to day work and outline the knowledge and skills required for competent practice. Save your digital copy from our website.

www.niscc.info



The Learning Zone

Whatever your role and level of experience, we have a range of digital resources and information to help you develop your knowledge and skills to supplement and support your Continuous Professional Development (CPD) throughout your career. These resources are completely **free**, accessible across all devices and you can work through them at your own pace.



www.learningzone.niscc.info/

The Learning Zone



Try some of our modules today:

Resilience and Well-Being for Social Care Workers

Hope, Hints and "How To" - Helping you respond to living and dying issues during COVID-19

Shielding, Social Isolation and Staying Connected

Supporting Good Infection Control



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**Working together.
Making a difference.**