

A summary of the adult social care sector and workforce in Bristol 2023/24



Skills for Care is the strategic workforce development and planning body for adult social care in England. We work with employers, Government, and partners to ensure social care has the right people, skills, and support required to deliver the highest quality care and support, now and in the future. Our role is to respond and adapt to the emerging trends and needs within social care, using data and evidence to drive forward widescale change.

The information within this summary has been produced by Skills for Care using the Adult Social Care Workforce Data Set (ASC-WDS). We use the data collected by the ASC-WDS to create workforce models that, in turn, allow for estimates of the whole adult social care workforce and its characteristics to be produced. The * notation indicates the figure has been suppressed.

Size and structure of the workforce

In 2023/24 the adult social care sector in England had an estimated 18,500 organisations with 40,000 care-providing locations and a workforce of around 1.84 million posts. The total number of posts in Bristol was around 15,000 in 2023/24. This was comprised of 14,000 filled posts and 1,000 vacant posts across all sectors.

Since the previous year, the total number of posts were similar, the number of filled posts has increased by 300 (2%) and the number of vacancies has decreased by 200 (17%).

The estimated 14,000 filled posts were split between local authorities (7%), independent sector providers (83%), posts working for direct payment recipients (7%) and other sectors (4%).

In 2023/24, the CQC register showed there were 181 regulated services in Bristol; 95 were residential and 86 were non-residential services.

If the workforce grows proportionally to the projected number of people aged 65 and over then the total number of adult social care posts in the South West region will increase by 35% (from 194,000 to 260,000 posts) between 2023/24 and 2040.

From here on, the figures in this report refer to the 12,500 filled posts in the independent sector and local authority only. Filled posts in other sectors are not included.

The independent sector information in this report was collected between April 2023 and March 2024. 504.43 Tm00050324821BT/BT 120WOLA

Across England, the vacancy rate has decreased compared to last

Qualifications, training and skills

We believe that everyone working in adult