

Adults' Health and Care

Provider newsletter

4 August 2023

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South East Social Care International Recruitment Small Grant Scheme

Registered social care providers in the South East region can apply for a £1500 grant towards the cost of recruiting staff from overseas. Providers must be CQC registered and located in a South East Local Authority area. The money can be used towards obtaining a sponsorship licence from the Home Office or recruiting a new member of staff using a skilled worker visa, during the current financial year.

For Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth, Southampton and Surrey, the scheme is being run by Hampshire Care Association.

You can apply online, and applications can be made prior to recruitment if you expect to obtain your licence or allocate a Certificate of Sponsorship before March 2024. Funding will be allocated to successful applications and can be claimed once evidence can be presented. If you have already obtained your licence, or recruited an overseas worker since 1 April 2023, you can still apply.

The number of grants available in each area is proportional to the number of registered providers, and you are encouraged to apply early to secure your grant. You can find more information and support, including resources on the [SESCA website](#), and at information seminars.

If you have any questions you can contact grants@sesca.org.uk or the Hampshire hub at robin.ir@hampshirecare.org

FIND OUT MORE AND APPLY

Fire Service issues safety warning over the dangers of lithium batteries

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service (HIWFRS) has issued a warning about the dangers of lithium batteries following serious and fatal incidents across the country.

Many mobility scooters are now powered by lithium batteries so it's vital that the most vulnerable members of the community are aware of the risks. The danger occurs when e-bikes and e-scooters are left on charge and unattended in homes or in communal areas such as hallways and stairwells, where they can block emergency escape routes. When you visit somebody's home, you can help by sharing the safety tips below:

- Never leave a charger plugged in overnight or unattended.
- Always charge mobility scooters clear of exits and escape routes.
- Always use the correct charger and unplug when the charge is complete.
- Only choose products from a reputable retailer.
- Avoid storing, using or charging batteries at very high/low temperatures.
- Don't overload sockets.
- Ensure batteries are checked regularly for any damage.
- If a battery is not holding charge, gets hot, bulges or makes hissing noises, unplug immediately.
- Install working smoke alarms on every level of your home, including the areas where you store or charge your scooter.
- If there are signs of fire such as the battery smoking or flames, raise the alarm immediately, get out, stay out and call 999.

If you have concerns you can [make a referral for a Safe and Well visit](#) - you may need to seek the individual's permission before you share their details.

Hot weather and health: supporting vulnerable people

See [information](#) from government that aims to assist professionals in protecting vulnerable people from the health impacts of severe heat in England.

Money Talk Toolkit for Health and Care Professionals

Developed with the Money and Pension Service, the Personalised Care Institute is pleased to host the Money Talk Toolkit. The toolkit has been designed to equip health and care workers to use personalised care approaches, helping to identify, understand, support, and refer people with money-related health issues.

The toolkit is free to use and offers a range of courses and resources as well as financial wellbeing support.

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Social Care Blog

Read the latest Social Care Blog from the Department of Health and Social Care. Recent posts include digital skills, social care superpower and winter readiness.

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Reminder: Nursing event in Social Care

Impact is pleased to announce their first conference dedicated to Nurses working in Social Care.

They will be in conversation with Dame Elizabeth Nneka Anionwu, who in 2018 was included in the list of the 70 most influential nurses and midwives in the history of the NHS. Dame Elizabeth Nneka Anionwu became the Vice-President of the Queen's Nursing Institute (QNI) in 2021. Dame Elizabeth Nneka Anionwu will share her story and there will be an opportunity to ask questions.

The conference will also hear from Agnes Fanning who will talk about QNI standards for Nurses in Social Care and how these support you in your role.

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