



October 2009

Social Care Contacts

Relevant Contacts in Social Care/Social Work in Northern Ireland

This information sheet provides relevant contacts to assist anyone who is intending to work or volunteer in social care or social work in Northern Ireland. The contacts listed will also be useful to anyone intending to train to be a social worker or social care worker in Northern Ireland.

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Health and Social Care Trusts

From the 1 April 2007, the 19 Health and Social Services Trusts were merged to become five Health and Social Care Trusts under Review of Public Administration (RPA)* as follows;

<p>Belfast Health and Social Care Trust Headquarters: Nore Villa Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road BELFAST BT8 8BH Tel: 028 9056 5656 Website: www.belfasttrust.hscni.net</p>	<p>Merging Existing Trusts North and West Belfast Trust South and East Belfast Trust Belfast City Hospital Trust Green Park Trust Mater Hospital Trust Royal Group of Hospitals and Dental Hospital Trust</p>
<p>Western Health and Social Care Trust Headquarters: MDEC Building Altnagelvin Hospital Site Glenshane Road DERRY BT47 6SB Tel: 028 7134 5171 Website: www.westertrust.hscni.net</p>	<p>Altnagelvin Hospital Trust Foyle Trust Sperrin and Lakeland Trust</p>
<p>Southern Health and Social Care Trust Headquarters: Southern Area College of Nursing Craigavon Area Hospital 68 Lurgan Road CRAIGAVON BT63 5QQ Tel: 028 3861 3950 Website: www.southerntrust.hscni.net</p>	<p>Armagh and Dungannon Hospital Trust Craigavon Area Hospital Group Trust Craigavon and Banbridge Community Trust Newry and Mourne Trust Armagh and Dungannon Hospital Trust</p>
<p>Northern Health and Social Care Trust Headquarters: The Cottage 5 Greenmount Avenue BALLYMENA BT43 6DA Tel: 0845 6012333 Website: www.northerntrust.hscni.net</p>	<p>Homefirst Community Trust Causeway Trust United Hospitals Trust</p>
<p>South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust Headquarters: Top Floor Thompson House Hospital 19/21 Magheralave Road LISBURN BT28 3BP Tel: 028 9266 9111 Website: www.setrust.hscni.net</p>	<p>Down Lisburn Trust Ulster Community and Hospital Trust</p>

Main Voluntary Agencies

Please note many of these organisations have branches across the province and will be able to provide contact details of the nearest one in your area. Many also offer relevant volunteering opportunities.

<p>Age Concern HQ 3 Lower Crescent, Belfast BT7 1NR Tel: 028 9024 5729 Website: www.ageconcernni.org</p> <p>Area: Campaigns to improve the quality of life for older people. Services include: providing information, support for carers, protection of rights and home care for older frail people.</p>	<p>Barnardo's 542-544 Upper Newtownards Road Belfast BT4 3HE Tel: 028 9067 2366 Website: www.barnardos.org.uk/northernireland.htm</p> <p>Area: Works with children, young people and families who are in need, helping them to cope with a wide range of issues including; disability, poverty, abuse and being homeless.</p>
<p>Belfast Central Mission Grosvenor House 5 Glengall Street Belfast BT12 5AD Tel: 028 9024 1917 Website: www.belfastcentralmission.org</p> <p>Area: Works with people of all ages in communities throughout NI. Services include befriending, residential care, leaving and aftercare, supported living and mentoring.</p>	<p>Bryson Charitable Group 28 Bedford Street Belfast BT2 7FE Tel: 028 9032 5835 Website: www.brysonhouse.co.uk</p> <p>Area: Community based social services and environmental charity working with families/children, young people/adults and the local community. Services include domiciliary care, family support, preschool education and community development.</p>
<p>Camphill Community Glenraig Craigavad, Holywood BT18 0DB Tel: 028 9042 3396 Website: www.glenraig.org.uk</p> <p>Area: Aims to teach, train and care for children and adults with special needs because of their various mental, emotional and behavioural disabilities.</p>	<p>CiNI - Children in Northern Ireland Unit 9, 40 Montgomery Road Belfast BT6 9HL Tel: 028 9040 1290 Website: www.ci-ni.org.uk</p> <p>Area: CiNI is the regional umbrella organisation for the children's voluntary sector in Northern Ireland. It represents the interests of children and the voluntary sector that works on their behalf.</p>
<p>CAB - Citizens Advice Bureau Regional Office, 46 Donegal Pass, Belfast BT7 1BS Tel: 028 9023 1120 Website: www.citizensadvice.co.uk</p> <p>Area: Works with the community to provide an advice service on issues such as: benefits, housing, employment, debt, consumer and legal issues.</p>	<p>Corrymeela Community 8 Upper Crescent Belfast BT7 1NT Tel: 028 9050 8080 Website: www.corrymeela.org</p> <p>Area: Works to ensure peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland through providing opportunities for meeting, dialogue and learning within communities.</p>

<p>Crossroads for Caring Head Office 7 Regent Street Newtownards County Down BT23 4AB</p> <p>Tel: 028 9181 4455 Website: www.crossroadscare.co.uk</p> <p>Area: Promotes and offers support for carers and people with care needs by providing respite services for elderly, frail, ill or disabled people.</p>	<p>Disability Action Headquarters, Portside Business Park 189 Airport Road West Belfast BT3 9ED Tel: 028 9029 7880 Website: www.disabilityaction.org</p> <p>Area: Works directly with people with various disabilities: physical, mental, sensory and hidden.</p>
<p>Early Years Organisation 6C Wildflower Way Apollo Road Boucher Road Belfast BT12 6TA Tel: 028 9066 2825 Website: www.early-years.org</p> <p>Area: Provides information and training for parents, childcare providers, employers and local authorities in early childcare and education.</p>	<p>Extern Organisation Hydepark House 54 Mallusk Road Newtownabbey BT36 4WU Tel: 028 9084 0555 Website: www.extern.org</p> <p>Area: Works directly with children, adults and communities affected by social exclusion throughout Ireland.</p>
<p>Face Inclusion Matters Unit 3, Jennymount Industrial Estate North Derby Street BELFAST BT15 3HN Tel: 028 9074 6555 Website: www.inclusionmatters.org</p> <p>Area: Works to further the personal development of children and young people with/without disability through educational and structured leisure activities.</p>	<p>Home-Start (NI) 133 Bloomfield Avenue Belfast BT5 5AB Tel: 028 9046 0772 Website: www.home-start.org.uk</p> <p>Area: Parents supporting other parents in particular families with young children and those struggling with post-natal illness, disability, bereavement or social isolation.</p>
<p>Marie Curie NI 60 Knock Road Belfast BT5 6LQ</p> <p>Tel: 028 9088 2060/ 9088 2000 Website: www.mariecurie.org.uk</p> <p>Area: Provides care and support to people with cancer and other life limiting illnesses within their homes and/or in specialist hospices.</p>	<p>Mencap (NI) Segal House 4 Annadale Avenue Belfast BT7 3JH Tel: 028 9069 1351 Website: www.mencap.org.uk</p> <p>Area: Works to support adults and children with a learning disability and their families and carers.</p>

<p>MCRC - Multi-Cultural Resource Centre NI 9 Lower Crescent Belfast BT7 1NR Tel: 028 9024 4639 Website: www.mcrc-ni.org</p> <p>Area: MCRC is a regional organisation which supports and provides services to black and ethnic minority communities and individuals.</p>	<p>NAS - National Autistic Society (NI) 57A Botanic Avenue Belfast BT7 1JL Tel: 028 9023 6235 Website: www.nas.org.uk</p> <p>Area: NAS supports parents/carers/partners and professionals working in the field of Autistic Spectrum Disorders.</p>
<p>NIACRO – NI Association for Care & Resettlement of Offenders Amelia House 4 Amelia Street Belfast BT2 7GS Tel: 028 9032 0157 Website: www.niacro.co.uk</p> <p>Area: Works to reduce crime and its impact on people and communities. Works with children and young people who offend.</p>	<p>NICEM – NI Council for Ethnic Minorities 3rd Floor, Ascot House 24-31 Shafesbury Square Belfast BT2 7DB Tel: 028 9023 8645 Website: www.nicem.org.uk</p> <p>Area: Works in partnership and alliance building to end discrimination and racism in society and bring about social change.</p>
<p>NICMA – the Childminding Association 16-18 Mill Street Newtownards BT23 4LU Tel: 028 9181 1015 Website: www.nicma.org</p> <p>Area: NICMA works to support and develop registered home-based childcare.</p>	<p>NICVA - Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action 61 Duncairn Gardens Belfast BT15 2GB Tel: 028 9087 7777 Website: www.nicva.org</p> <p>Area: Provides information and advice to community and voluntary organisations on training, information management and policy development.</p>
<p>Northern Ireland Hospice Care Headquarters, 18 O’Neill Road Newtownabbey BT36 6WB Tel: 028 9078 1836 Website: www.nihospicecare.com</p> <p>Area: Provides palliative and rehabilitative care services for adults and children with life limiting and life threatening illnesses.</p>	<p>Northern Ireland Women’s Aid 129 University Street Belfast BT7 1HP Tel: 028 9024 9041 Website: www.womensaidni.org</p> <p>Area: Provides a wide range of services to women and children affected by domestic violence throughout Northern Ireland.</p>

<p>North & West Housing Group 18 Magazine Street L/Derry BT48 6HH Tel: 028 7126 3819 Website: www.northandwest.org</p> <p>Area: Provides affordable housing and support for young people, older people and those with mental health and learning difficulties.</p>	<p>NSPCC - National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NI) Jennymount Business Park North Derby Street Belfast BT15 3HN Tel: 028 9035 1135 Website: www.nspcc.org.uk</p> <p>Area: Works to support and protect children and young people from cruelty, and violence. Campaigns to raise awareness about abuse.</p>
<p>Oxfam Ireland Belfast Office 115 North Street Belfast BT1 1ND Tel: 028 9023 0220 Website: www.oxfamireland.org</p> <p>Area: Works with people around the world to end the injustice of poverty by assisting people to gain control of their own economic and social development.</p>	<p>PlayBoard NI 59-85 York Street Belfast BT15 1AA Tel: 028 9080 3380 Website: www.playboard.org</p> <p>Area: Playboard is the lead agency for the development of children's and young people's play in NI.</p>
<p>Praxis Care Group (Mental Health Charity) 29-31 Lisburn Road Belfast BT9 7AA Tel: 028 9024 8665 Website: www.praxiscaregroup.org.uk</p> <p>Area: Provides a range of services for adults and children with a learning disability, mental ill health, acquired brain injury and older people (including people with dementia).</p>	<p>Prospects NI 37 Movilla Street Newtownards Co Down BT23 7JQ Tel: 028 9182 6862 Website: www.prospects.org.uk</p> <p>Area: Works in partnership with local authorities, housing associations, trusts and local churches to support and enable adults with learning disabilities to live their lives to the full.</p>
<p>Relate Northern Ireland 3rd & 4th Floor, 3 Glengall Street Belfast BT12 5AB Tel: 0870 2426091 Website: www.relateni.org</p> <p>Area: Provides a confidential relationship and family counselling service to the local community.</p>	<p>Salvation Army Headquarters, 12 Station Mews Sydenham, Belfast BT4 1TL Tel: 028 9067 5000 Website: www.salvationarmy.org.uk</p> <p>Area: Works worldwide to support the homeless, children, families, adults and older people.</p>

<p>Samaritans 5 Wellesley Avenue Belfast BT9 6DG Tel: 028 9066 4422 Website: www.samaritans.org.uk</p> <p>Area: Provides a confidential emotional support service for people in distress or despair.</p>	<p>Save the Children Regional Office, Popper House 15 Richmond Park Belfast BT10 0HB Tel: 028 9043 1123 Website: www.savethechildren.org.uk</p> <p>Area: Works to support children in the UK and around the world who suffer from poverty, disease, injustice and violence.</p>
<p>Simon Community (NI) Central Office, 57 Fitzroy Avenue Belfast BT7 1HT Tel: 028 9023 2882 Website: www.simoncommunity.org</p> <p>Area: Works to support the homeless by providing direct access hostels, leaving care services, and community support.</p>	<p>Society of St Vincent De Paul (NI) Regional Office, 196-200 Antrim Road Belfast BT15 2AJ Tel: 028 9035 1561 Website: www.svp-ni.org</p> <p>Area: Works to enhance the quality of life for children, families and adults in need regardless of creed, colour or race.</p>
<p>SSAFA – Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen & Families Association Forces SSAFA Forces Help Office NI War Memorial Building 9 -13 Waring Street Belfast BT1 2DW Tel: 028 9032 7740 Website: www.ssafa.org.uk</p> <p>Area: Helps, supports and provides social services to those who serve in the armed forces, those who use to serve, and their families.</p>	<p>Sure Start To contact local programmes in Northern Ireland go to</p> <p>Website: www.surestart.gov.uk/aboutsurestart/help/contacts/</p> <p>Area: A government programme to support children, families and communities.</p>
<p>Triangle Housing Association Central Office, 60 Eastermede Gardens Ballymoney BT53 6BD Tel: 028 2766 6880 Website: www.trianglehousing.org.uk</p> <p>Area: Manages and maintains a range of supported housing and general family accommodation sometimes in partnership with other specialist agencies.</p>	<p>Victim Support (NI) Regional Office, 70/74 Ann Street Belfast BT1 4EH Tel: 028 9024 4039 Website: www.victimsupport.org</p> <p>Area: Provides emotional support, information and practical help to people who have suffered or being affected by a crime.</p>

<p>Volunteer Development Agency 129 Ormeau Road Belfast BT7 1SH Tel: 028 9023 6100 Website: www.volunteering-ni.org</p> <p>Area: Produces and disseminates high quality, up to date information about volunteering.</p>	<p>Voluntary Service Bureau 34 Shaftesbury Square Belfast BT2 7DB Tel: 028 9020 0850 Website: www.vsb.org.uk</p> <p>Area: Provides the infrastructure to support, encourage and promote voluntary opportunities for adults and young people.</p>
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Probation Board (PBNI)

To practise as a Probation Officer in NI you must hold a recognised social work qualification. If you are interested in working in probation, there are a limited number of opportunities for qualified social workers. You can request the NISCC – **Career in Probation** information booklet or contact the Probation Board for more information as follows:

80-90 North Street,
Belfast
BT1 1LD
Tel: 028 9026 2400
Website: www.pbni.org.uk

Education Welfare

To practise as an Education Welfare Officer in NI you must hold a recognised social work qualification. If you are interested in working in education welfare, there are a limited number of opportunities for qualified social workers. You can contact the Education Welfare Offices within the education and library boards for more information as follows:

Belfast Education Welfare Service:	Tel: 028 9056 4268
North Eastern Education Welfare Service:	Tel: 028 2566 2563
Southern Education Welfare Service:	Tel: 028 3751 2384
Western Education Welfare Service:	Tel: 028 8241 1289
South Eastern Education Welfare Service:	Tel: 028 9056 6941

Jobs and Benefits Offices

You can find out about employment and training opportunities in social care/social work at your local Jobs and Benefits offices. If you wish to locate your nearest office to speak with an adviser, log on to the Department of Employment and Learning (DELNI) website: www.delni.gov.uk and follow the links to '*Finding employment, Finding staff*' and click on '*Jobs and Benefits offices and Job Centers*'.

Employment agencies who recruit for the social care/social work

You can search for employment in social care and/or social work at the following recruitment agencies:

<p>Aptus Personnel 2nd Floor 3-15 Pottingers Entry Belfast BT1 4DT Tel: 028 9024 8792 Email: belfast@aptus-personnel.com Website: www.aptus-personnel.com</p>	<p>Balmoral Healthcare Agency 146 Malone Road Belfast BT9 5LH Tel: 028 9038 0808 Email: balmoral@gonursing.co.uk Website: www.gonursing.co.uk</p>
<p>Beresford Blake Thomas Ltd Clarence Chambers 18 Donegal Square East Belfast BT1 5HE Tel: 028 9026 1670 Email: g.mckenna@bbt.co.uk Website: www.bbtworldwide.co.uk</p>	<p>Bryson Charitable Group The Spectrum Centre 311 - 333 Shankill Rd Belfast BT13 3AA Tel: 028 9031 3482 Email: dom-care@brysongroup.net</p>
<p>Diamond Care 16 Donegal Square South Belfast BT1 5JF Tel: 028 9027 9242 Email: admin@diamond-care.com Website: www.diamond-care.com</p>	<p>Grafton Recruitment (Healthcare) 39-41 Custom House Square Belfast BT1 3FG Tel: 028 9066 5228 Email: info@graftonrecruitment.com Website: www.grafton-group.com</p>
<p>Lucas Love Healthcare Ltd 2nd Floor Beaufort House 597-599 Lisburn Road Belfast BT9 7GS Tel: 028 9066 8035 Email: doc@lucaslove.com</p>	<p>M Care Ltd Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH Tel: 028 9070 3703 Email: debbiemcare@btconnect.com</p>
<p>Premiere People Hampden House 55 Royal Avenue Belfast BT1 1FX Tel: 028 9023 5777 Email: belfast@premiere-agency.com Website: www.premierepeople.com</p>	<p>Rutledge Joblink Link House 86 Great Victoria Street Belfast BT2 7BD Tel: 028 9024 6888 Website: www.rutledgejoblink.com</p>
<p>Viva Voce Recruitment Ltd Suite 108 Enterprise House Enterprise Crescent, Ballinderry Road Lisburn BT28 2BP Tel: 028 9266 9212 Email: info@vivavocerecruitment.co.uk Website: www.vivavocerecruitment.co.uk</p>	

Useful Social Care/Social Work Employment Web Addresses

You can search online for social care and/or social work positions at the following websites.

Health and Social Care Jobs:	www.hscrecruit.com / www.hpssjobs.com
Central Services Agency Job Trawl:	www.centralservicesagency.n-i.nhs.uk
Belfast Telegraph:	www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk
Northern Ireland Jobcentre Online:	www.jobcentreonline.com
Northern Ireland Jobs:	www.nijobs.com
BASW Jobs Board:	www.socialworkjobs.org.uk
Care Appointments:	www.careappointments.co.uk
Community NI:	www.communityni.org
HealthcareJobs in Ireland:	www.healthcarejobs.ie

If you are looking to work specifically in a nursing, residential or domiciliary care setting, there are many agencies and organisations throughout Northern Ireland and the UK who may have vacancies. To find out contact details for these you can search at the following websites:

UK Home Care Association:	www.ukhca.co.uk
(At the UKHCA site select “Choosing Care” – “Working in HomeCare”)	
Independent Health and Care Providers:	www.ihcp.co.uk
Fours Seasons Health Care:	www.fshc.co.uk
Homecare: Independent Living:	www.homecareindependentliving.com

Social Care and Social Work Education and Training in Northern Ireland

Contacts for the Degree in Social Work

<p>Queen’s University Belfast (QUB) Social Work Department 6 College Park Belfast BT7 1LP Tel: 028 9097 5117/1475 (School Secretary) Website: www.qub.ac.uk</p>	<p>Queen’s University Belfast (QUB) Admissions Office University Road Belfast BT7 1NN Tel: 028 9097 5081 / 028 9024 5133 Website: www.qub.ac.uk</p>
<p>University of Ulster at Magee (UUM) Social Work Department School of Sociology & Applied Social Studies Magee Campus , Northland Road L’Derry BT48 7JL Tel: 028 7137 5229 (School Secretary) Website: www.ulster.ac.uk</p>	<p>University of Ulster at Magee (UUM) Admissions Office Magee Campus, Northland Road L’Derry BT48 7JL Tel: 028 7137 5434/5301 Website: www.ulster.ac.uk</p>

The University of Ulster also normally offers the Degree in Social Work in partnership with four regional colleges of Further and Higher Education (F&HE) as follows:

<p>Belfast Metropolitan College Degree in Social Work Department of Continuing Education Millfield Building, Belfast BT1 1HS Tel: 028 9026 5482/5000 Website: www.belfastmet.ac.uk</p>	<p>South West College Degree in Social Work School of Health Care and Counselling Circular Road, Dungannon BT71 6BQ Tel: 028 8772 2323 Website: www.swc.ac.uk</p>
<p>North West Regional College Degree in Social Work Department of Care and Health 19 City Factory Derry BT48 7ES Tel: 028 7127 6000 Website: www.nwrc.ac.uk</p>	<p>South Eastern Regional College Degree in Social Work Faculty of Health and Social Care Victoria Avenue Newtownards BT23 7ED Tel: 028 9127 6808/6600 Website: www.serc.ac.uk</p>

University and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)

Applications for the full-time social work courses are made through the University and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS). The UCAS website contains lists of all the courses offered in any further or higher education establishment in the UK, including social work in NI, and you can search by type of course, region or by individual university. Applications can be completed online at: www.ucas.com

Colleges for Further and Higher Education (F&HE)

If your academic qualifications do not meet the required entry criteria for the Degree in Social Work¹, you may have to undertake further training for example; a further and higher education access course or a distance learning course. These can be undertaken at your local college/institute of further and higher education, through the Open University or at an approved training and learning centre.

Contact details for regional colleges of F&HE and their campuses are as follows -

Name of Regional College	Campus Contact Details
<p>Belfast Metropolitan College Website: www.belfastmet.ac.uk</p>	<p>Belfast Metropolitan – Tel: 028 9026 5000/5265 Castlereagh – Tel: 028 9079 7144 / 9026 5265</p>
<p>North West Regional College Website: www.nwrc.ac.uk</p>	<p>Derry – Tel: 028 7127 6000 Limavady – Tel: 028 7127 8700 Strabane – Tel: 028 7138 2317</p>

¹ Please note the academic criteria for entry to the Degree in Social Work is set by the academic providers and may vary from institution to institution. You should always check with the social work admissions/social work departments at each provider to confirm the current entry requirements for the year you plan to apply to the Degree.

Northern Regional College Website: www.nrc.ac.uk	Coleraine – Tel: 028 7035 4717 Ballymoney – Tel: 028 2766 0401 Newtownabbey – Tel: 028 9085 5000 Larne – Tel: 028 2827 8855 Felden – Tel: 028 9085 6423 Antrim – Tel: 028 9446 3916 Ballymena – Tel: 028 2565 2871 Magaherfelt – Tel: 028 7963 2462
South Eastern Regional College Website: www.serc.ac.uk	Ballynahinch/Downpatrick/Newcastle: Tel: 028 4461 5815 Lisburn: Tel: 028 9267 7225 Newtownards/Bangor: Tel: 028 9127 6600 Tel: 0845 600 7555
South West College Website: www.swc.ac.uk	Dungannon: Tel: 028 8772 2323 Cookstown: Tel: 028 8676 2620 Enniskillen: Tel: 028 6632 2431
Southern Regional College Website: www.src.ac.uk	Omagh: Tel: 028 8224 5433 Armagh: Tel: 028 3752 2205 Newry: Tel: 028 3026 1071 Kilkeel: Tel: 028 4176 2582 Banbridge: Tel: 028 3839 7700 Lurgan: Tel: 028 3839 7800 Portadown: Tel: 028 3839 7777

Distance Learning Opportunities

If you are unable to attend a training course at your local college or training centre, you can contact the Open University to find out about distance learning opportunities.

Open University in NI

40 University Road,

Belfast

BT7 1SU

Tel: 028 9024 5025

Email: ireland@open.ac.uk

Website: www.open.ac.uk

Educational Guidance Service for Adults (EGSA)

If you are intending to return to study and need advice, you can contact EGSA – the adult guidance organisation. EGSA is based in 8 offices across Northern Ireland and has staff available to answer a range of questions you may have about adult learning opportunities such as; how to find a suitable course and what funding is available. If you contact the Belfast office, they can provide details of the nearest office to you.

EGSA

4th Floor,

40 Linenhall Street,

Belfast

BT2 8BA

Tel: 028 9024 4274

Email: info@egsa.org.uk

Website: www.egsa.org.uk or www.connect2learn.org.uk

Careers Service

Throughout Northern Ireland, there are Careers Advisers based at Jobs and Benefit offices. These careers advisers provide an all age advice and guidance service to help people make informed choices about their future career path including; finding employment and/or training to return to employment.

You can locate your local Jobs & Benefit careers adviser at www.careersserviceni.com or log on to the Department of Employment and Learning website at www.delni.gov.uk and follow the links to '*Finding employment/Finding Staff*'.

Directgov website

Directgov is the website of the UK government for its citizens, providing easy access to the public services you use and the information you need through an online services all in one place. Go to www.direct.gov.uk to find information on a wide range of subjects such as: education and learning (including qualifications), health and wellbeing, caring for someone and employment/careers advice.

Funding for Education and Training for Social Care / Social Work in Northern Ireland

Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS)²

The DHSSPS is the Northern Ireland government department responsible for health, social services, and public safety. This department is responsible for policy and current initiatives in social services and administers the Degree in Social Work Student (Financial) Incentive Scheme.

For further information about the Student Incentive Scheme contact:

Office of Social Services, DHSSPS
Room C4.22., Castle Buildings,
Stormont,
Belfast.
BT4 3SQ.
Tel: 028 9052 0517
Website: www.dhsspsni.gov.uk

Further and Higher Education

If you wish to find out about funding for your further and higher education and training, you can log on to the Department for Employment and Learning (DELNI) website (www.delni.gov.uk) and follow the links to '*Further and Higher Education and Funding Support*'. The DELNI offers various types of funding support be it for an individual, employer or training organisation.

Higher Education

For information about financial support for students in Higher Education, go to www.studentfinancenico.uk This website provides information about funding for new and continuing students, for those looking for full time or part time study and students with dependents and/or disabilities.

² Please note the Northern Ireland Social Care Council (NISCC) has not been delegated the authority or budget to provide any financial assistance to social work students. This function is carried out by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (Office of Social Services) for some social work students domiciled and studying for the Degree in Social Work in Northern Ireland and by the local education and library boards.

Education and Library Boards *

Alternatively you can contact the student finance section at your local education and library board directly. The Education and Library Boards in NI have the responsibility to assess student's eligibility for student support under the Higher Education in NI - Student Support Arrangements.

<p>Belfast Education & Library Board Student Finance, BELB 40 Academy Street Belfast BT1 2NQ Tel: 028 9056 4237/4278/4243 Fax: 028 9033 1714 Email: student.awards@belb.co.uk Website: www.belb.org.uk</p>	<p>North Eastern Education & Library Board Student Finance, NEE&LB 182 Galgorm Road County Hall Ballymena BT42 1HN Tel: 028 2565 5025 or 028 2566 2280 Fax: 028 2564 3674 Email: student.awards@neelb.org.uk Website: www.neelb.org.uk</p>
<p>South Eastern Education & Library Board Student Finance, SEE&LB Grahamsbridge Road Dundonald Belfast BT16 2HS Tel: 028 9056 6200 Fax: 028 9056 6267 Email: student.awards@seelb.org.uk Website: www.seelb.org.uk</p>	<p>Southern Education & Library Board Student Finance, SE&LB 3 Charlemont Place The Mall Armagh BT61 9AX Tel: 028 3751 2432 Fax: 028 3751 2490 Email: student.support@selb.org Website: www.selb.org</p>
<p>Western Education & Library Board Student Finance, WE&LB Campsie House I Hospital Road Omagh BT79 0AW Tel: 028 8241 1499 Fax: 028 8241 1233 Email: student.awards@welbni.org Website: www.welbni.org</p>	<p>Student Finance NI Tel: 0845 600 0662 Website: www.studentfinancenl.co.uk Department of Employment and Learning (DELNI) Website: www.delni.gov.uk</p>

*From 2010, the Education and Skills Authority (ESA) will take over the function of the five Education and Library Boards under RPA. For more details about these changes go to the Department of Education for NI website at www.deni.gov.uk

Social Care Councils within United Kingdom (UK)

Northern Ireland Social Care Council (NISCC)

The NISCC is responsible for the regulation and registration of the social care workforce in Northern Ireland. It promotes education and training for all social care staff, regulates social work training and sets standards for social care workers and their employers, to promote a safe, reliable and competent service.

Tel: 028 9041 7600

Website: www.niscc.info

Care Council for Wales (CCW)

The CCW is responsible for the regulation and registration of the social care workforce in Wales. It promotes and regulates social care education and training and provides guidance on social work training and development.

Tel: 029 2022 6257

Website: www.ccwales.org.uk

General Social Care Council (GSCC)

The GSCC is responsible for regulation and registration of the social care workforce in England and it approves social work training in England.

Tel: 0207 397 5100

Website: www.gsc.org.uk

Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC)

The SSSC is responsible for regulation and registration of the social care workforce in Scotland. It promotes and regulates social care education and training and provides guidance on social work training and development.

Tel: 0845 6030 891

Website: www.sssc.uk.com

Professional Bodies / Unions

British Association of Social Workers (BASW)

The British Association of Social Workers is the professional body for social work in the UK and provides information and advice on professional social work practice. BASW produces publications and journals for Social Work and issues a magazine '*Professional Social Work*'.

BASW (NI)

Douglas House,
397 Ormeau Road,
Belfast,
BT7 3GP

Tel: 028 9064 8873

Email: n.ireland@basw.co.uk

Website: www.basw.co.uk

Northern Ireland Public Service Alliance (NIPSA)

NIPSA provides trade union protection and representation at work for the civil and public service and the voluntary sector in NI.

NIPSA

Harkin House,
54 Wellington Park,
Belfast
BT9 6DP

Tel: 028 9066 1831

Website: www.nipsa.org.uk

UNISON

UNISON provides trade union protection and representation at work for public service workers in health, social services, education, local government, private companies providing public services and the community and voluntary sector.

Unison NI, Gallway House

165 York Street

Belfast

BT15 1AL

Tel: 028 9027 0151

Website: www.unison.org.uk/northernireland

Social Work within the Republic of Ireland (ROI)

National Social Work Qualifications Board (Dublin)

If you wish to train to be a social worker or practise as a social worker in the ROI, contact the National Social Work Qualifications Board (NSWQB). The NSWQB is responsible for maintaining and promoting the quality of social work education and training in the ROI. NSWQB can also tell you about training courses, policy issues, job opportunities and how to become accredited to work in ROI. In order to practise as a professional social worker in ROI, those who have qualified outside of the ROI, must apply to the NSWQB for accreditation of their non-national qualifications. The process can take up to **2-4 months** and therefore it is recommended that you apply well in advance of the point of planned employment.

Tel: 003531 67 66281

Website: www.nswqb.ie

Irish Association for Social Work (IASW)

The IASW is the professional body for social work in the ROI and provides information and advice on professional social work practice.

Tel: 003531 6774838

Website: www.iasw.ie

Other Resources*

Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE)

SCIE provides resources, research and examples of good practice in social care.

Website: www.scie.org.uk

Social Care Online

Social Care Online offers access to a range of information and research on all aspects of social care - for free. Content is updated daily and is drawn from a range of resources including journal articles, websites, research reviews, legislation and government documents, and service user knowledge.

Website: www.scie-socialcareonline.org.uk

Social Policy and Social Work (SWAP)

SWAP provides resources for students, practitioners and educators on learning, teaching and assessment in social policy and social work.

Website: www.swap.ac.uk

Community Care Magazine

Community Care is weekly magazine providing news, analysis, opinion and background information on a wide range of relevant areas for those working or training in social work or social care.

Website: www.community-care.co.uk

Care and Health Magazine

Care and Health is a web-based magazine that supports the professionals charged with improving people's well-being.

Website: www.careandhealth.com

Children Now Magazine

Children Now provides high-quality research and sharp analysis on the full spectrum of matters affecting children.

Website: www.childrennow.org

HONNI – Health On the Net Northern Ireland

The honni website provides online access to a number of online resources which you can use to find literature and other information related to social care including; databases, electronic journals, subject gateways and web sites. Honni also provides information about library services, including a number of printable guides.

Website: www.honni.qub.ac.uk

*The NISCC website (www.niscc.info) also provides a comprehensive list of useful websites for anyone interested in working or training in social work or social care. These can be found in the links section of the NISCC website.

NB: Please note that while every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this leaflet is accurate at the time of going to print, the Council does not accept responsibility for any errors or omissions in the information provided.