

62809

Unqualified social work support roles

Please provide the number of staff currently employed by the council in unqualified roles that support statutory social work or social care teams.

For the purpose of this request, I am referring to roles that do not require the postholder to be a registered social worker, but which support social work or social care activity.

We currently do not have anyone undertaking an apprenticeship model leading to the social work qualification as this currently does not exist. It is only in the pilot stage in the West of Scotland and will eventually be rolled out Nationally. Once universities put in a proposal which is agreed by the SSSC (social work governing body) we will look to enter a 3-way contract with Skills Direct Scotland and the relevant University.

We do however offer sponsored places on the distance learning courses where social work assistants, community care assistants and other non-qualified social workers in the field of social care, residential services etc are supported to undertake the social work qualification whilst employed either via Robert Gordon University or the Open University. We also support those who are self-funding the course.

Social work apprenticeships

For each of the last three financial years, please provide:

- the number of apprenticeships started by the council in total

301 (72 in 2022/23, 75 in 2023/24, and 64 in 2024/25)

- the number of apprenticeships started in social care/children's services/adult social care

113 (45 in 2022/23, 38 in 2023/24, and 30 in 2024/25)

- the number of apprenticeships started that lead to a recognised social work qualification.

There were no qualifications that lead to an apprentice becoming a fully qualified social worker

- the name of the apprenticeship standard or qualification used, for example, Social Worker Degree Apprenticeship

There were no qualifications for an apprentice becoming a fully qualified social worker delivered

Social Services (Children & Young People) SCQF 6

Social Services (Children & Young people) SCQF 7

Social Services (Children & Young people) SCQF 9

Social Services and Healthcare SCQF 5/6

Early Learning and Childcare

- the number of staff who completed a social work qualification through an apprenticeship route

There were no qualifications that lead to an apprentice becoming a fully qualified social worker

- the number of staff currently undertaking a social work qualification through an apprenticeship route

There are no qualifications that lead to an apprentice becoming a fully qualified social worker

Future plans

Please confirm whether the council plans to recruit or support any new social work degree apprentices in 2025/26.

No social work degree apprentices were employed or supported during 2025/26