

Sector Pulse Check

**Adult social care sector
annual review:**

**A snapshot of the key financial
and workforce challenges in 2024**

#SectorPulseCheck



Hft and Care England
Analysis by CEBR, Jan 2025

Before we start:



Hft is a **care provider**.



Care England is an organisation that speaks for **care providers**.



This booklet tells you about:

- Some questions we asked other **care providers**
- What we found out, and
- What we would like to happen



Talk with your supporters about this booklet.

Note to your supporters:

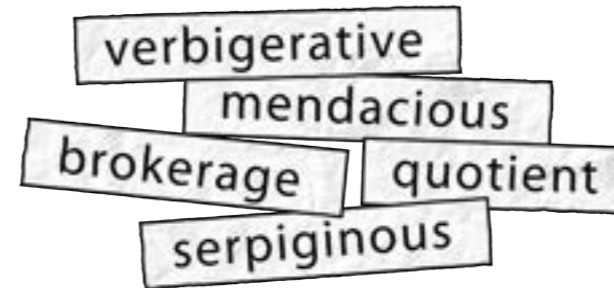
The aim of this booklet is to communicate the main findings of the Sector Pulse Check report.

This has been written using easy read format. Some people will need their support workers to read this with them or to use an alternative communication method.



What is in this booklet:

Part 1



Hard Words

This part tells you about some of the hard words.

Part 2



What the Sector Pulse Check report is

This part tells you what the Sector Pulse Check report is about.

Part 3



What we found out

This part tells you about the main discoveries.

Part 4



What you can do

This part tells you about how you can share the report.

verbigerative
mendacious
brokerage quotient
serpiginous

This part tells you about the hard words that are in the Sector Pulse Check report.

Care Providers
Politicians
Staff vacancies

The hard words that are in the report are explained here:



Care Providers

Care providers are organisations that support people to live their lives.

They help lots of different people, for example:

- People with a learning disability
- Older people



Staff vacancies

Staff vacancies are when **care providers** are looking for more people to work in their services to give support.



Politicians

The people that run the country are called **politicians**.

They make important decisions that can affect people's lives.

For example politicians make important decisions that can change:

- How people with a learning disability get support
- How much money **care providers** are given

Keir Starmer is the Prime Minister. He is a **politician**.

Part 2 – What the Sector Pulse Check report is



This part tells you what the Sector Pulse Check report is about.



Hft and Care England asked care providers some questions about:



The challenges caused by **staff vacancies**.

We used the things they told us to help us write the Sector Pulse Check report.



How much money they have.



We use the report when we talk to **politicians**.



How they are saving money.



It helps them understand what changes need to happen so:

- **Care providers** have enough money
- **Care providers** can give good care and support

Part 3 – What we found out



CARE

This part tells you about what we found out.



We found out about two main things:



1 How much money care providers have.



2 Challenges caused by high staff vacancies.



1 The first thing we found out about was how much money care providers have.



We found out that lots of **care providers** don't have enough money.

Care providers mostly have less money than last year.

Some of the things that are costing care providers lots of money are:



The cost of paying staff has gone up since last year.

Politicians have not given **care providers** enough money, so they find it hard to pay staff.



Paying for work on their buildings and for things like gas and electricity.



To save money, care providers have been forced to do things like:



Think about closing down their services which give care.



Offer support to fewer people.



Spend less money on their staff, or on things like computers in their offices.



What Hft and Care England would like politicians to do:



Make a long-term plan about how it can give **care providers** enough money.



Give **care providers** money to pay for energy, buildings and computers.



2

The second thing we found out was about the challenges caused by staff vacancies.



Care providers had lots of staff vacancies last year.

Care providers have far more staff vacancies than other types of job.



Many care providers have chosen to hire staff from other countries to help fill staff vacancies.



X

However, this year politicians changed the law to make it harder for care providers to do this.

This means care providers will find it even harder to fill staff vacancies next year.



X

Because they had high staff vacancies:

Lots of care providers could not give support to people who were asking for it.



Some care providers had to close down services.



+

Care providers said more people would work in social care if:

They were paid more money.



People thought it was a good job to do.



Hft and Care England want politicians to:



Make a plan for social care staff to:

- Make it a more attractive job
- Help **care providers** hire staff



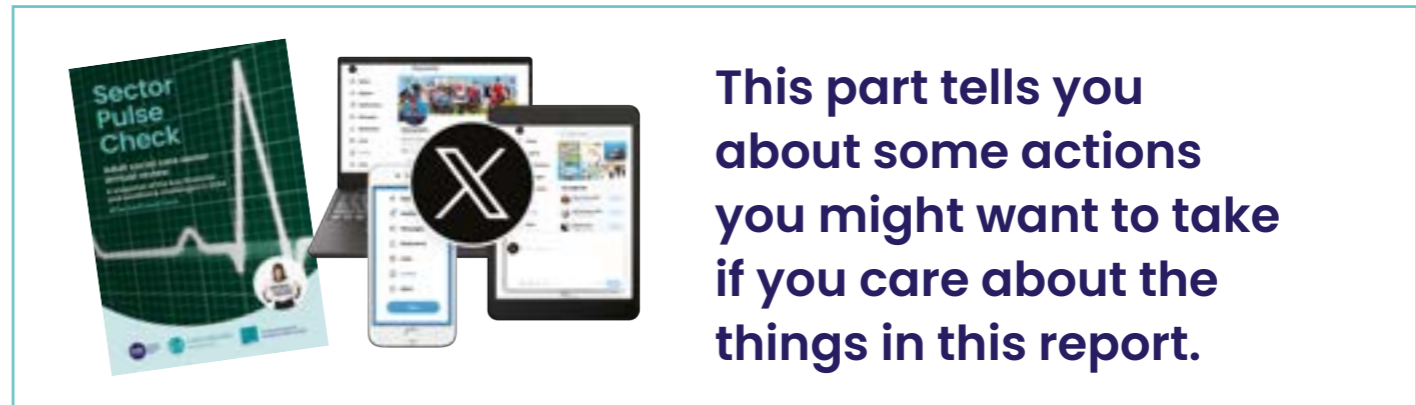
Make it easier for **care providers** to hire staff from other countries, to help them fill **staff vacancies**.



Take steps to make sure care workers feel valued.

This will stop them leaving their jobs and decrease **staff vacancies**.

Part 4 – What you can do



This part tells you about some actions you might want to take if you care about the things in this report.



Share this with other people who receive support from **care providers** or have a learning disability.



Share this on social media through:

- Facebook
- X (which used to be called Twitter)
- Instagram



Join the Hft **Walk in Our Shoes** Network to speak up about things which matter to you.

Find out more by going online with the address below:




www.hft.org.uk/get-involved/walk-in-our-shoes-network/



Contact Hft:

 hft.org.uk

 0117 906 1700

 5/6 Brook Office Park,
Folly Brook Road,
Emersons Green,
Bristol BS16 7FL

Follow Hft:

 Hftonline

 Hftlearningdisabilities

 Hftlearningdisabilities

 Hft

 HftTV



Contact Care England:

 careengland.org.uk

 08450 577 677

 info@careengland.org.uk

 2nd Floor,
2 Devonshire Square,
London EC2M 4UJ

Follow Care England:

 @CareEngland

 Care England

Hft: Registered Charity No. 313069
Company Registered in England No. 734984

Care England: Registered Charity No. 296103
Company Registered in England No. 02082270