

Passionate about good care?

Have you used a care service?

Or cared for someone who has?

Be a volunteer inspector and let's make care better together!

Volunteer inspector information and application form



We inspect care and social work services to make sure they are high quality and meet the needs of the people who use them. We believe we can make care better by working with people who have personal experience of those services.

Is this you?

We're looking for people with a personal experience of care. So, if you have used a care service, or cared for someone close who has used a care service, you could be just who we're looking for. You don't have to have qualifications – personal experience is what counts.

How we work together

Your personal experience gives you a unique insight into care. You will join us on inspections to talk to people using services. We know that people using services are more likely to share their honest views with you, because of your similar experience. You can make sure their views are an important part of the inspection and are included in the inspection report.

We will support you to be a volunteer inspector and try to match you with services best suited to your experience. We will offer you training and work closely with you to support you in your work with us. We will pay your expenses and if you have additional needs we will do our best to support you with those too.

What you will do as a volunteer inspector

- Take part in at least six inspections a year.
- You may travel to services, joining our inspectors on visits. While our inspectors tour the service and talk to staff, you will talk to the people using the services and record their views and opinions on the service they are getting.
- You may telephone people to find out what they think of the support they get.
- You may help to run focus groups to find out what people think of their care service.
- You will write a report that will inform the main inspection report.
- You and the inspector will meet the manager of the service at the end of the inspection to tell them what people told you and what you saw.

We'll work closely with you and support you to do all of this.

What happens when you apply

We interview applicants, check references and carry out a criminal records check.

Once we appoint a volunteer inspector, they will have two days training and then shadow an inspection. Then, each year, there will be two days training, one personal review and four group meetings.

We ask our volunteer inspectors to take part in around six inspections a year.

Not sure if this is right for you?

Get in touch with us if you need to know more to help you decide if you'd like to apply. We're waiting to answer any questions you may have.

Call our Involvement Administrator on 01382 207217 or 207142.

Or email us at getinvolved@careinspectorate.com

Application form

Before you apply

Our involvement scheme is not a route to employment. We're not looking for people whose interest in care is professional. So, if you're working in care or social work, or looking for a job with the Care Inspectorate, our involvement scheme is not for you.

All the information you give us is confidential

Surname

Initials

Please complete all sections of this application form

Please type or print using black ink

1 Your personal details

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Mobile

Email

Where did you hear about us?

2 You personal experience of care

We are recruiting volunteer inspectors who have personal experience (either currently or in the past) of using care services, or who have cared for someone close who has used care services.

Please give brief details of relevant personal (non-work) experience.

3 Support Needs

We can offer various types of support to help you to be a lay assessor if you require it. Please tell us if you have any specific needs (for example, wheelchair access, induction loop, communication needs and so on).

4 Referees

Please give us details of two referees. They must not be family members but could be support workers, key workers or social workers. We would prefer it if you do not provide referees from the same organisation.

Please tick the box if you do not want us to contact a referee before we interview you. After interview, if we decide to offer you an appointment, we will contact your referees.

Referee 1

Please do not contact this referee before interview

Name and Occupation

Address

Postcode

Email

Referee2

Please do not contact this referee before interview

Name and Occupation

Address

Postcode

Email

5 Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975

Under this Act, applicants are entitled to withhold information on a criminal conviction on the grounds that it is 'spent' following a period of rehabilitation, unless the post has been advertised as 'excepted' from these provisions. All applicants selected for interview will be required to complete and bring with them a Criminal Conviction Form which will provide full details of the Act and give advice on how to complete the declaration.

Equal Opportunities Questionnaire

We separate this page from your application when we receive it.

The information you give us here will not form part of your application and will not influence our decision.

We are committed to pursuing equality of opportunity within the principle of appointment based on merit. Monitoring recruitment practice is one way of helping us ensure that there is no discrimination in the way people are selected. The information you provide on gender, age, ethnic origin and disability will be used for monitoring purposes only.

Surname

First name

Post Applied for

Location of Post:

Where did you see this post advertised?

Press Advert (Please state name of publication)

Other (Please detail)

Gender (Please tick) Male Female

What is your age? Under 21 years 21 – 29 years 30 – 39 years

40 – 49 years 50 – 59 years 60 – 65 years Over 65 years

Ethnic Origin. Please tick only one box. These categories are taken from the 2001 Census.

A White

Scottish

Irish

Other British

Any other White background

B Mixed

Any mixed background

C Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British

Indian

Chinese

Pakistani

Bangladeshi

Any other Asian background

D Black, Black Scottish or Black British

Caribbean

African

Any other Black background

E Other ethnic background

Any other background

Disability

Disability is defined as a physical or mental impairment, which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

In these terms, do you consider that you have a disability?

Yes

No

In terms of the Data Protection Act 1998, I consent to the information which I have provided being used to monitor the effectiveness of the The Care Inspectorate's Equal Opportunities Policy.

Signed _____

Date _____