**New tool launched to speed up social care recruitment**

* Join Social Care will accelerate the recruitment process for adult social care
* People looking to work in care can upload an online profile to be viewed by CQC registered care providers in their local area
* Online training and DBS checks available free of charge

A new online platform to fast-track recruitment into the adult social care sector has been launched the government has announced today.

Join Social Care is a recruitment platform that makes it easier for care providers to reach people in their local areas looking to work in the sector.

The online platform, developed and licensed from Cera Care, allows candidates to record a video interview and access free training supported by Skills for Care before starting employment.

Registered providers are then able to search for candidates in their local area, view their video interviews before starting DBS checks and training processes and make conditional offers making recruitment more streamlined during the coronavirus pandemic and beyond.

**Minister for Care Helen Whately said:**

““The dedication and commitment of care workers during this global pandemic has been an inspiration to us all. We know we need more people working in care, and lots of people are coming forwards to do just that.

“As part of our adult social care action plan, we’ve launched a new platform to accelerate recruitment and help providers find candidates in their area.

“Crucially, candidates who want to work in social care can get free training and DBS checks, as well as access to job opportunities. We want to see thousands more people taking up the chance to work in care, boosting the social care workforce in this unprecedented time.”

Free online induction training for candidates is provided by Skills for Care endorsed learning providers and will include infection prevention and control, basic life support and first aid and safeguarding adults.

**Skills for Care CEO Oonagh Smyth said:**

“Bringing together free online training offered by our endorsed training providers and DBS checks will make it easier for hard pressed employers to fill gaps in their workforce to help keep the people they work with safe and well.

“It’s critical all new recruits get high quality induction training from our endorsed providers to take on their new roles in what is an incredibly challenging time for all our sector’s employers, and they can also access other practical tools via our website.”

As part of the recruitment process candidates will undertake pre-employment checks to help fast-track the recruitment process for employers. Providers can start the DBS checking process as soon as they have identified a potential employee and looked at their video interview.

This is part of the government's ongoing social care action plan to ensure the sector has the resources it needs during the coronavirus pandemic.

There are currently around 122,000 vacancies in the sector and the government launched their adult social care recruitment campaign in April to attract thousands of people into care roles by July to help the fight against coronavirus.