# A summary of the adult social care sector and workforce in Bedford

Across England, the vacancy rate has decreased compared to last year and the number of filled posts has increased. During this period international recruitment increased which has impacted these trends.

Workers in Bedford had on average 9.7 years of experience in the sector and 78% of the workforce had been working in the sector for at least three years.

We have many resources and tools available to help. Please visit our values-based recruitment page for more information.
Skills for Care have also collaborated with the adult social care sector and people who draw on care and support to develop a Workforce Strategy, which includes attraction recommendations and commitments.

## Employment information

We estimate Bedford had 5,200 adult social care filled posts in the local authority and independent sectors. These included 425 managerial roles, 150 regulated profession roles, 4,000 direct care (including 3,400 care workers), and 650 other-non-care proving roles.

The average number of sickness days taken
in the last year in Bedford was 2.8, ie9(en 1 249.05 434.81 Tm0 gTŒT]Tdkne)-5(ss )8(d)-3(a)-3(ynB eW*

## Qualifications, training and skills

We believe that everyone working in adult social care should be able to take part in learning and development so that they can carry out their roles effectively. Learning and development helps everyone to develop the right skills and knowledge to enable them to provide high-quality care and support.

Skills for Care estimates show that 57% of the direct care providing workforce in Bedford hold a *relevant* adult social care qualification (44% in Eastern and 47% in England). Raw data from the ASC-WDS showed, of those workers without a relevant adult social care qualification recorded, 60% had five or more years of experience in the adult social care sector, 54% had engaged with the Care Certificate and 58% had completed training.

### Factors affecting turnover

Together with a data science specialist, we used ASC-