Social and Community

Those in this sector share the common ground of helping others. Who they help and in what way varies considerably as many areas of work fall under this heading, including: advice and guidance, child care and early years education, child protection, fostering and adoption, community work and day care, residential care, psychological support, counselling and various therapies, housing support, occupational therapy, social work, probation work and youth and community work. Many of these sectors and the associated qualifications are overseen by the Health and Care Professions Council.

Being highly pressurised this sector shoulders considerable responsibility when society ‘breaks down’. The important consideration is who do you want to help and for which kinds of issues? Training and development are highly regulated in this sector and roles are not highly paid for those who are dedicating themselves to a ‘cause’. Many of you will need to build up considerable skills and experience through volunteering before you can embark on a career.

Key Resources

The Career Development Institute
General careers information, how to qualify in careers advisory work and jobs and opportunities

The Citizens Advice Bureau
How they operate and how you can gain experience with them

The British Psychological Society
Careers for professional psychologists: how to get in and what’s involved with a link to jobs with a specific graduate job search function

British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy
Careers information, qualification advice and therapist listings

British Association for Social Work
News, sector information and publications, careers information and job vacancies

National Youth Agency
Information about a range of youth work careers plus a jobs database

Children and Young People Now
Information, news and job opportunities across the social and community sector

Work with offenders
Information on a wide range of specialist careers working with offenders, plus job hunting advice and job opportunities

Access this page and more industries at reading.ac.uk/careers/resources
**Jobs in advice**
Website dedicated to job opportunities in advice.

**Local Government Jobs**
The official local government jobs website including care and social work roles

**NHS Careers**
Covers the range of social and care roles that come under the auspices of the NHS. Look under the category of therapeutic roles, psychotherapy roles and occupational health for roles that fit into this sector

**NHS Jobs**
The NHS job search pages

**Jobs.ac.uk**
A highly searchable jobs database with roles in Further and Higher Education and research institutes in the UK and overseas. Can set up RSS feeds

**The Guardian**
The Guardian provides useful pages that give articles about a range of careers and careers issues and jobs pages (often for more experienced staff so think laterally when you use them) where you can search for work in charities, health, further education, higher education, housing, social work and schools

**Charity Jobs**
Find volunteering and paid roles in charities across the social and community sector.

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**You may also be interested in...**

- Charity and Development Work
- Education and Research
- Healthcare

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Access this page and more industries at [reading.ac.uk/careers/resources](http://reading.ac.uk/careers/resources)