

# Meet Chris

Founder and manager, CareBIG



Chris is the founder of CareBIG, a start-up agency who connect self-employed carers with individuals who need care and support.

They provide a platform for carers to advertise their services so that members of the public can find them. They assess and interview the carers to ensure they have the right values and behaviours to work in social care.

Carers create an online profile which includes their past experience, when they can work, hobbies, interests and personality traits - members of the public then visit the website to find carers.



## What does Chris do in his role?

Chris is the founder of the agency and his role is to oversee the management of the agency.

This includes:

- speaking to the web developers who build and maintain the website
- responding to calls from people who need care and support
- meeting candidates who want to become carers
- supporting candidates through pre-employment checks, such as DBS and reference checks
- recruiting and managing employees
- marketing the agency and promoting its services.

**You'll get to work with all kinds of people who'll inspire your best work each and every day. So if you're starting out and want to make a positive impact on the lives of others, social care's a great fit.**



## How did he get here?

Chris worked in investment banking for 14 years before he decided to start a career in social care.

From his own experience of his Dad receiving care, Chris knew how challenging it could be to find carers with the right values to provide good care and support. He also saw first hand how his Dad struggled to accept that sometimes when you receive care and support, people start making choices for you.

Chris decided to set up CareBIG to give people more choice and control over who cared for them in their own homes.

His mother and a close friend both worked as domiciliary carers so he understood the challenges that some carers face such as limited time visits and low pay rates.

He started exploring different models of home care and found that lots of social care organisations weren't utilising technology as much as they could. He therefore decided to set up CareBIG as an online platform to match individuals who need care and support with carers.

However he also wanted to add a personal element to the process, and ensures that he meets all individuals who need care and support, and ensures carers have the right values and behaviours through the recruitment process.

**It's about keeping the individual healthy and integrated in their community for as long as possible.**

## Where can it take him?

Chris hopes that the agency expands as more people choose to receive care and support in their own home rather than move into residential care.

He hopes to develop the online platform to enable families and friends to stay connected and involved in the care of their relative. He also hopes this will one day expand to involve GP's, informal carers and other professionals so everyone involved in the care of an individual can communicate and share information with each other.

**You'll be making a massive contribution to society and not many people can say that about their job!**