



## What is a support coordinator in social care?

Julie works as a support coordinator for Centra Care and Support, an organisation that helps people who need care and support to live independently. She has a background working in the housing sector and found her current role through a volunteering opportunity.



Julie works as a support coordinator for Centra Care and Support. She works in a supporting housing scheme and is responsible for the wellbeing of all who live there.

This includes ensuring the building is safe at all times, supporting people to live independently and liaising with other professionals to ensure everyone gets the high quality care they need.

Julie loves working with people and hearing their stories.

## How did she get here?

Julie's background is working in the housing sector. She originally wanted to train to become a social worker, but is happy in her current role and doesn't have any plans to move at the moment.

She started her career in social care at a local authority supporting asylum seekers. She took time out of her career to start a family, and when ready to start work again, began volunteering at a supported housing scheme her aunt had moved into. She thought this would be a good way of gaining some experience to support her job applications. In this volunteer role she organised social events for the residents such as coffee mornings.

After a couple of years she was asked to apply for the role of scheme manager (this is the same role she is in now, just a different title). This role was part time and fitted in well around her family commitments.

Julie now works full time and has completed a range of health and social care courses to support her in her current role. She also holds a level 3 qualification.

She's also taken on extra responsibilities through a 'floating support' contract. This involves visiting vulnerable adults (including those living with drug and alcohol addictions and people who may display behaviour that challenges) in their own homes and providing support. Initially she found this challenging but has welcomed the opportunity to further develop her skills.

## Where can it take her?

Julie would like to progress into a project manager role within Centra Care and Support.

She has decided not to do further qualifications due to personal circumstances, but knows that the support is available if she decides to do so in the future.

## What would she say to others interested in a career in care?

Julie would recommend a career in social care if you're the type of person who cares about others, as it can be very rewarding.

If you want to make a difference to people's lives, a career in social care gives you the opportunity to do that

She would suggest taking on a volunteering opportunity to help you find out if a career in care is really what you want; it can also give you invaluable experience.