



## Introduction

Welcome to the April Bulletin, which brings together a wide range of national updates, research, guidance, funding opportunities and learning events relevant to colleagues working across health, social care, justice, education and the third sector.

This month's bulletin highlights emerging policy and practice developments in key areas including children and young people's mental health, green health and wellbeing, professional curiosity, kinship care, poverty and inequality, trauma-informed practice, and adult support and protection. It also includes updates on consultations, new guidance and recent research, alongside opportunities to engage in learning, networking and reflection through events and training.

As always, the bulletin is intended to support learning, improve practice and promote awareness of current developments across Scotland's public services. We hope you find the content informative and useful for your work.

If there is anything that you would like to add to the bulletin, please do not hesitate to email: [Kirsty.rogers@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:Kirsty.rogers@glasgow.gov.uk).

Colin Anderson  
Independent Chair

## Health

### Scotland's Green Health Framework

This joint statement from Greenspace Scotland, NatureScot and Public Health Scotland sets out a framework for advancing green health in Scotland to realise significant benefits for people, nature and climate.

[Sustainability Report](#)

### Supporting Children's Mental Health

The Scottish Government announced that it has met its Programme for Government commitment on specialist children's mental health waiting times, with new statistics that waiting times for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services in Scotland are now at their lowest level since June 2013.

[Scotland meets CAMHS waiting times commitment - gov.scot](#)

## Funding Opportunities

### Corra Foundation - Boost Fund

Boost Small Grants programme is for community-led organisations across Scotland supporting local people affected by poverty or disadvantage. It's all about boosting community-led efforts, to ensure people with ideas for positive change are supported!

This fund aims to:

- provide an accessible funding opportunity for small community-led organisations
- ensure supportive community-led activities are available to children and families

[Boost Fund supporting communities across Scotland](#)

## Inclusion and Participation

### New Skills Session - Creative (Re)presentation

Tickets are now available for the free webinar: 'Creative (re)presentation - Telling stories through a participatory and voice-led approach and the making of the film 'Healing Pitch' - a staged reading of a play written by four young people exploring their experiences with mental health, care, and passion for football.

If you are looking for fresh approaches to including people's authentic experiences in



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creative ways that empowers people without exposing them to harm, this webinar will be unmissable.

[Creative \(re\)presentation Tickets, Wednesday, April 29 1pm to 3pm Eventbrite](#)

### **Voices that matter: putting people at the centre of SIGN guidelines webinar**

Healthcare Improvement Scotland will be joined by colleagues who will give an overview of how people are involved in the work of the Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN). This webinar will explore how people with lived experience, carers, third sector representatives and members of the public contribute to guideline development.

[Voices that matter: putting people at the centre of SIGN guidelines webinar – Healthcare Improvement Scotland](#)

## **Criminal Justice**

### **National Woman's Justice Coalition**

Since forming in 2021 as a coalition of five founding women's organisations, the National Women's Justice Coalition has grown into a national network of 26 partners. This report sets out how the coalition has strengthened the visibility, legitimacy and influence of specialist women's services during a period of significant social and economic pressure.

[Four Years of the National Women's Justice Coalition CK](#)

### **Consultation – Protections for Women and Girls**

The Scottish Government has launched a [consultation](#), Protections in the justice system for women and girls, which includes consideration of a new law on the creation of deepfake intimate images.

The consultation will run until 19 June 2026.

### **Guidance on Children in Police Custody**

Scotland's Youth Justice Improvement Board has published new multi-agency guidance on children in police custody, ahead of section 15 of the Children (Care and Justice) (Scotland) Act 2024 which came into force on 30 March.

[CCJ-Act-police-custody-guidance](#)

## **Reframing Masculinity for Young Men and Boys**

Research highlighting the importance for probation and youth justice practice of understanding current constructions of masculinity.

[Reframing Masculinity for Young Men and Boys Care Knowledge.](#)

## **Understanding Trauma**

### **Finding the Balance: Transforming How We Think About the Body's Response to Stress in Early Childhood**

A paper that explores how the balance of stress and resilience shapes children's health and development, as well as providing strategies to strengthen protective factors support adaptive stress responses.

[Finding the Balance - CareKnowledge](#)

### **How the Education Experiences of Youth in Care are Explored in the Qualitative Literature**

A scoping review that aimed to explore the qualitative research on the educational experiences of youth in care.

[Education Experiences of Youth in Care - CareKnowledge](#)

## **Care Experienced and Kinship**

### **Scotland's Vision for Kinship Care**

The Scottish Government has published Scotland's Vision for Kinship Care, which sets out the support that kinship families in Scotland can expect and is informed by the voices of children, young people and carers.

[Scotland's Vision for Kinship Care: Our Offer of Support for Families - gov.scot](#)

Renfrewshire Council has announced that it is set to launch a Care Experienced Guaranteed Interview Scheme, that will offer care experienced job applicants an interview if they meet the essential criteria for a role with the council.

[Renfrewshire Council launches new care experienced interview scheme - The Gazette](#)

## **Professional Curiosity**

Included within the following link is a short, animated video, developed by IRISS which gives an introduction to the topic of Professional Curiosity. and an overview of what we have learned this year.



## [Professional Curiosity Video - IRISS](#)

Iriss's Professional Curiosity project has been seeking to develop a deeper understanding of this topic and its implications for the Public Protection workforce in Scotland. This report brings together both the literature review and findings from the discussion sessions that were core to the project. It is an overview of professional curiosity as it relates to Public Protection work across Scotland.

## [Professional Curiosity |IRISS](#)

### **Children's Social Work Statistics: Child Protection – 2024 to 2025**

Annual statistics covering data on children subject to child protection processes in Scotland.

## [Child Protection Social Work Statistics: Child Protection](#)

## **Education**

### **Into Higher Education**

A guide to additional support for anyone with a health condition, learning difficulty or disability thinking about studying in higher education starting September 2026.

## [Into Higher Education – Care Knowledge](#)

### **Improving Relationships and Behaviour In Schools**

The Scottish Government has published the second annual progress report on the Relationships and Behaviour In Schools Action Plan 2024 to 2027.

## [Improving relationships and behaviour in schools: ensuring safe and consistent environments for all. Joint action plan 2024 to 2027: 2nd Annual Progress Report - gov.scot](#)

## **Poverty**

### **Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland 2022 to 2025**

Statistical estimates of the proportion of people, children, working-age adults and pensioners in Scotland living in poverty, and other statistics on household income and income inequality.

## [Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland 2022 to 2025 - CareKnowledge](#)



## **Tackling Child Poverty**

The Scottish Government [published](#) its third tackling child poverty delivery plan for 2026 to 2031, there is widespread media coverage of the plan.

[Scottish Government Child Poverty Delivery Plan](#)

[Government will miss child poverty goal - Daily Mail Online](#)

## **Adult Services and Social Care**

The National Adult Support and Protection Learning & Development Network would like to invite you to join them for this ASPIre (Adult Support and Protection Innovation and Reflection Event) on Early Action and Prevention.

### **Social Care Analytical Unit: Areas of Research Interest 2026 to 2029**

A document setting out the current Areas of Research Interest for the Scottish Government's Social Care Analytical Unit.

[Social Care Analytical Unit: Areas of Research Interest 2026 to 2029 – Care Knowledge](#)

### **Inequality Considerations in the Marginal Productivity of Public Expenditure in Social Care**

A report from a research project that aimed to evaluate the impact of adult social care expenditure on inequality in care-related quality of life of service users and carers.

[Inequality Considerations in the Marginal Productivity of Public Expenditure in Social Care – Care Knowledge](#)

### **Developing the Scottish Learning and Improvement Framework for Adult Social Care Support and Community Health (SLIF) Digital Tool**

A report describing the process undertaken to develop a digital tool to support the testing and implementation of the draft Scottish Learning and Improvement Framework for Adult Social Care Support and Community Health.

[Developing the Scottish Learning and Improvement Framework for Adult Social Care Support and Community Health \(SLIF\) Digital Tool – Care Knowledge](#)

## **Events and training**

### **Take part in research on human rights in the voluntary sector**

THRE and the University of Strathclyde are running relaxed in-person lunchtime discussions - with lunch provided - to explore how human rights-based approaches can



support your work. We are inviting Glasgow-based organisations to join focus groups to share perspectives, and whether or not you currently use these approaches in your work

[THRE Focus Group and Lunch Sign-Up \(Human Rights-Based Approaches\)](#). The session is from 9.30am to 12.30pm on 28 April 2026 via Teams.

### **Woman's Support Project: Responding to Women who sell or exchange sex in Scotland**

**Thursday 5 May 10.30am to 12pm**

Registration closes 27th April 2026. We will record the session for anyone who may not be able to attend.

[Previous ASPire recordings.](#)

The session will showcase resources cover women safety, housing, mental health, sexual health and financial needs, as well as support available when they choose to exit.

Register for the event [via our training calendar](#).

### **Children in Scotland's Annual Conference 2026**

**27 and 28 May, Glasgow**

This year Children in Scotland are looking at 20 years of GIRFEC and what comes next. As always, they're planning to bring together the best of Scotland's children's sector to show just all the different ways we can, and do, get it right. The conference will be held over two days, 27 and 28 May.

[Children in Scotland's Annual Conference 2026 - Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland](#)