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### Public Protection Bulletin

11<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Dear colleague,

Lockdown is easing and our most vulnerable citizens are receiving their second vaccinations. However, there continues to be a real and significant threat from new, faster spreading variants of the virus so we all need to observe long standing advice on social distancing and where appropriate, wearing masks.

In previous bulletins, we have discussed the impact of lockdown and social isolation on mental health and wellbeing. However, we are now beginning to learn more about the impact of “long covid”, especially for otherwise vulnerable people, and there are growing concerns for the mental wellbeing of our children and young people.

Although there are real reasons for optimism, our member organisations and front-line workers continue to face significant ongoing and emerging challenges. As public protection leaders and managers we also need to focus on how we better support our staff and volunteers.

As previously reported, our Adult Support and Protection and Child Protection Committees and subgroups have returned to the regular meeting schedules, albeit on video conferencing platforms, and I won't even hazard a guess at how long this new way of working might last.

People tell us these bulletins continue to be a valuable source of information and accordingly, we will continue to seek out the latest news and provide electronic links to more detailed articles.

As before, this needs to be a two-way process so please continue to share any interesting news or developments from your particular agency or organisation. We hope you find something of interest to you in the articles below.

Please stay safe and healthy,  
Best wishes,  
Colin

Colin Anderson,  
Independent Chair  
Adult Support & Protection Committee/Child Protection Committee

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### COVID – 19

#### [Post Lockdown Children in Crisis Report](#)

This report by the Childhood Trust examines the ways in which social distancing measures may have affected children's mental health, wellbeing and development.

#### [COVID-19 Guidance and Training Resources](#)

Scottish Government has produced guidance for early learning and childcare settings, childminding services and school age childcare settings. There are also 2 animations that staff can use for training purposes and to speak about behaviours that support the public health guidance.

#### [A Shared Experience: Outcomes for People Through the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

An online resource which brings together the learning from a collection of stories gathered by the Personal Outcomes Network throughout 2020.

#### [Understanding Why the COVID-19 Pandemic-Related Lockdown Increases Mental Health Difficulties in Vulnerable Young Children](#)

An evaluation of the social and emotional impacts of COVID-19 for children identified as 'at-risk' for mental health problems by their teachers prior to the pandemic.

### Children, Young People & Education

#### [Sandyford Saturday clinic for 13-17 year olds](#)

Sandyford, NHS GG&C, is delighted to inform you that they are opening a sexual health clinic for 13-17 year olds in Glasgow City Centre on Saturday afternoons. Starting on the 5th June, the clinic will run from 12.30-3.30, with twelve appointments available. The clinic will run from the Simon Community Hub, 389 Argyle Street, Glasgow, G2 8LR, which is a short walk from [Central station](#). Due to COVID 19 restrictions, these clinics are not drop in, young people must book an appointment and can do this [online](#) or by phone 0141 211 8130

#### [Publications from the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel](#)

The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel in England has published its independent annual report for serious child safeguarding incidents in 2020. This is the Panel's second annual report, covering their work from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020. It sets out the panels views about how effectively the system of reviews across England, including Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPRs) is operating.

#### [Analysis of Safeguarding Partners' Yearly Reports 2019-20](#)

What Works for Children's Social Care and the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel have published a report setting out key findings from a compliance audit and 'deep dive' analysis of safeguarding partnerships' yearly reports. Findings from analysis suggests that yearly reports could benefit from a sharper focus on impact, evidence, assurance and learning.

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### [Wood Review of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements](#)

The Department for Education (DfE) has published a review setting out recommendations for making new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements for local areas in England more effective.

### [Keep Cool](#)

A series of short educational videos designed to help young people learn about and cope with strong emotions.

### [Children and young people complaint text service](#)

The Care Inspectorate have a complaint text service for children and young people. This text service adds to the other ways young people can raise concerns about the quality of their care. This service allows young people to be more informed about their rights to quality care and support which it is hoped will build trust and improve their experience of care.

### [Who Cares? Scotland Case Studies](#)

Advocacy charity Who Cares? Scotland has published three case studies and best practice guides on care experienced learners, who have shared their experiences of further and higher education.

## Mental Health

### [A Retrospective Study Examining the Adverse Effect of Childhood Abuse Among Adult Psychiatric Service Users in Britain](#)

A study that aimed to assess the association between childhood abuse and the development of harmful social and behavioural outcomes among adult psychiatric service users.

### [The Invisible Scars of Emotional Abuse](#)

Childhood maltreatment (CM) is unfortunately widespread globally and has been linked with an increased risk of a variety of psychiatric disorders in adults, including posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). These associations are well established in the literature for some maltreatment forms, such as sexual and physical abuse. However, the effects of emotional maltreatment are much less explored, even though this type figures among the most common forms of childhood maltreatment.

This study aimed to investigate the impact of each type of childhood maltreatment, both individually and conjointly, on revictimisation and PTSD symptom severity using a nonclinical college student sample.

### [Set Up to Fail](#)

A report that highlights the difficulties that people with mental health problems might experience when trying to get help to manage their Universal Credit account online.

### [Barriers to and Facilitators of User Engagement With Digital Mental Health Interventions](#)

A systematic review that aimed to identify common barriers and facilitators that influence user engagement with digital mental health interventions.

## Disability

### [Learning disability health inequalities “entrenched”](#)

A major survey has uncovered concerning links with physical health problems and lower wellbeing among Scots with learning disabilities.

### [Mental health charity launches "first of its kind" recovery toolkit](#)

Penumbra has launched [a unique self-management toolkit for people living with ARBD](#) (alcohol related brain damage). Whilst clinical practice guidelines for the medical treatment of ARBD exist, Penumbra believes that this comprehensive recovery focused toolkit may be the first of its kind in Scotland designed for use by people living with ARBD.

## Older People & Dementia

### [Lockdown may have led to loss of strength and mobility](#)

Older people are in danger of losing the ability to do daily tasks because of the pandemic, according to experts in ageing at Strathclyde University. The researchers say that after the closure of vital support services during lockdown, it is important that people get back to being physically and socially active as soon as possible, to stop any decline. Two thirds of people over 50 say they are now less active than they were before the pandemic.

### [Interventions for Improving Self-Direction in People with Dementia](#)

Dementia is a progressive disease that affects people’s everyday functioning, including the ability to express values, needs and wishes, which can be considered key elements of self-direction.

For the purpose of this review, self-direction refers to the organisation and/or coordination of one's own life, including professional and other care, with the objective of having what one perceives to be a good life. The aim of this systematic review was to assess and describe interventions that aim to improve self-direction of people with dementia.

## Autism & ADHD

### [COVID-19 Health and Social Care Access for Autistic People: European Policy Review](#)

A review of policies from 15 European member states pertaining to (1) access to COVID-19 tests; (2) provisions for treatment, hospitalisation and intensive care units (ICUs); and (3) changes to standard health and social care.

## Housing & Homelessness

### [Glasgow City Mission reports success of Overnight Welcome Centre](#)

A new report has highlighted a decade of work by Glasgow City Mission to ensure nobody needed to sleep rough in Glasgow during the coldest months of the year.

## **Substance Use & Addictions**

### [Parents with alcohol and drug problems](#)

Public Health England (PHE) has published a toolkit containing guidance, data and other resources to support professionals who are helping families affected by parental alcohol and drug problems. The resources include: planning and operational guidance for adult alcohol and drug treatment services and children's services showing how services can work together to support families affected by parental alcohol and drug problems; and a guide to using case studies to estimate how much money can be saved by supporting families who experience problem parental alcohol and drug use.

### [Preventing Harmful Alcohol Use](#)

An analysis of the cost of alcohol consumption in 52 countries, showing how alcohol-related diseases reduce life expectancy, increase health care costs, decrease workers' productivity and lower GDP.

## **Crime, Justice, Prisons & Community Safety**

### [Empowering people affected by crime: VSS Strategy 2021-2026](#)

Victim Support Scotland's strategic plan for 2021-2026 seeks to ensure those affected by crime have access to justice, are treated with dignity and respect, receive high-quality support, and are involved in the development of justice priorities.

## **Gender Based Violence**

### [Social Workers' Conceptualisations of Domestic Violence and Abuse Against People with Learning Disabilities](#)

A study, written for a PhD thesis, that explores how social workers practising with adults with learning disabilities understand and respond to domestic violence and abuse in their work.

### [Child Sexual Abuse, Self-esteem, and Delinquent Behaviors During Adolescence: The Moderating Role of Gender](#)

A study that aimed to test the moderating effect of gender in the mediated relationship between child sexual abuse, self-esteem, and delinquency during adolescence.

### [Study into brain health after domestic violence](#)

A Scottish scientist behind important research into football and dementia is to lead an investigation into the lifelong consequences of physical abuse on the brain. Researchers at Glasgow and Edinburgh universities have been funded by The Drake Foundation to conduct the study. The organisation previously financed studies into sports-related head injuries.

### [A New Approach to Tackling Domestic Abuse](#)

The Wirral has recently introduced a comprehensive new domestic abuse policy, changing emphasis from a zero-tolerance approach to one which is focused on desired outcomes for victims. Assistant Director Elizabeth Hartley explains the thinking behind the new strategy.

## Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Immigration

### [The Right to Remain Toolkit](#)

A guide to the UK immigration and asylum system.

## Carers

### [Worn out unpaid carers in Scotland uncertain the services they rely on will continue post-pandemic](#)

More than a third of unpaid carers feel that they are unable to manage in their caring role. Carers have been left exhausted by the pandemic and worry about the future, new research has shown.

Just 23% of exhausted unpaid carers in Scotland are confident that the support they receive with caring will continue following the Covid-19 pandemic, [a study by Carers Scotland has shown](#).

### [The Impacts of COVID-19 on Unpaid Carers of Adults with Long-Term Care Needs](#)

Unpaid carers are the backbone of long-term care (LTC) systems around the world. The COVID-19 pandemic has further increased the pressure many unpaid carers experience; however, their experience has been largely absent from public reporting.

This study aimed to map the available evidence of the impacts of COVID-19 on unpaid carers of adults with LTC needs as well as of measures implemented to mitigate these effects and how well they have worked.

### [Online carers' training launched](#)

Age Scotland is launching a self-study platform for carers of people living with dementia for Carers' Week. The charity's dementia training team offers online workshops which make information on a range of rights and entitlements available to carers of people living with dementia and the professionals who support them. The new self-study platform will allow carers to learn about their rights when it is convenient to them and without time constraints.

### [Cutting Through the Intersections to Care for Caregivers](#)

As the number of people living longer with life-limiting conditions grows, so too does the number of caregivers and the complexity of the caring role. To understand more about the role and how caregivers can be supported, local and national registers have been created that collect data on caregivers. This body of research seeks to provide a comparative analysis of female and male adult caregiver assessments from a caregiver database created from a carers support service running in Glasgow, Scotland.

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### **Cyber & Financial Harm**

#### [Friends Against Scams Online Learning](#)

By attending a Friends Against Scams awareness session or completing the online learning, anyone can learn about the different types of scams and how to spot and support a victim. With increased knowledge and awareness, people can make scams part of everyday conversation with their family, friends and neighbours, which will enable them to protect themselves and others.

#### [Scam Share Bulletin](#)

Produced by Trading Standards Scotland, looking at some of the most recent scams which have been reported by consumers across Scotland.

### **Social Care & Practice**

#### [Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance's New Website Launch](#)

(SIAA) are delighted to launch their new website. They have been working hard to refresh the design and layout of the site, update the content and add new features. The website makes it easier to find out what independent advocacy is, who provides it and who might be able to access it, as well as providing clear signposting to local independent advocacy organisations.

#### [Free Peer support service launched for social workers](#)

The Social Work Professional Support Service is designed by and for social workers to support, and be supported by, colleagues across the profession. This free and confidential service offers an essential space for social workers at any stage of their career to talk through personal and professional challenges, and to find solutions and ways forward, supported by a volunteer coach who is also a social worker. You can find out more about how to access support, or how to apply to become a volunteer coach, [here](#).

#### [Joint Inspection of Adult Support and Protection in the Inverclyde Partnership Report Publication](#)

Building on the 2017-2018 inspections, this is one of 26 adult support and protection inspections to be completed between 2020 and 2023. They aim to provide timely national assurance about individual local partnership areas' effective operations of adult support and protection key processes, and leadership for adult support and protection. The joint inspection of the Inverclyde partnership took place between 25 November 2020 and 22 January 2021.

#### [Towards a Contemporary Social Care 'Prevention Narrative' of Principled Complexity](#)

The findings of a systematic integrative review which aimed to establish the key current debates within prevention work, and how prevention is conceptually framed, implemented and evaluated within the social care context.

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### [Rethinking Vulnerability: Language, Power and Social Work](#)

A literature review which engages specifically with the instability of the many meanings held within 'vulnerability', aiming to broaden an understanding of the term's diverse constructions with social work.

### **Events**

#### [Learning the lessons from Punishing Abuse: Why professional curiosity and knowing a child matters: 30/06/21, 10am](#)

This webinar provides an opportunity to hear Dr Alex Chard discuss his recent published and highly impactful report, Punishing Abuse, with the Youth Custody Service's Head of Safeguarding, Wendy Tomlinson, who has a longstanding background at a senior management level in children's services. Book a place using this link <https://learn.pavpub.com/ck-learning-the-lessons-from-punishing-abuse/>

#### [Developing Heroin Assisted Treatment in Scotland – learning from current practice; Tue, Jun 22, 2021 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM BST](#)

There is strong evidence internationally across decades that Heroin Assisted Treatment can impact positively on reducing harms and drug related deaths and this webinar aims to stimulate further developments in Scotland. This webinar will hear from existing providers of Heroin Assisted Treatment in Canada and the UK and provide guidance on the steps required to deliver further programmes in Scotland.

#### [Refugee Festival Scotland is Live!](#)

This year's festival runs from 14 June – 20 June. To access the list of events across Scotland please check <https://www.refugeefestivalscotland.co.uk/programme-2021/>

#### [Partnering with Survivors Starts with Perpetrator Accountability; 16 June, 4pm](#)

We often hear from professionals about how challenging it is when domestic violence survivors are not engaging with them. At times, it can seem as if they aren't being open about the abuse. But is there a way we can work with survivors which will build a better connection with them and help us all to keep children safe? And what does a perpetrator focus have to do with it?

In this webinar David Mandel, Executive Director and Founder of the Safe & Together Institute introduces the steps to partnering with survivors, and why holding perpetrators accountable is critical to affirming them.

#### [Next steps for adult social care in Scotland - service improvement, policy, funding, the workforce, stakeholder collaboration, and community-based support; Thursday 26 August](#)

This online Scottish Policy Conference will examine next steps for policy to address key challenges for adult social care in Scotland. Areas of focus include measures that can be taken to drive improvement in service provision, foster greater cohesion within the system, and support the care workforce. The discussion follows publication of the *Independent Review of Adult Social Care* in Scotland earlier this year.

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