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**Public Protection Bulletin
12th October 2023**

Dear colleague,

Some of you might remember the words of a Jonie Mitchell song “You don’t know what you’ve got till it’s gone”.

From the feedback I’ve had, especially from busy practitioners, this sentiment certainly applies to the enforced absence of our Bulletin and Newsletter. I know our new team members, Michelle and Natasha have been working hard to get us back on track with these key aspects of our information and communication systems. So welcome back!

There is no doubt that the challenges we face in terms of supporting and safeguarding the most vulnerable members of our community have multiplied exponentially during the absence of our bulletin. When we last reported to you, we were working with our partner organisations to assess the impact of poverty and the cost-of-living crisis on the most vulnerable members of our community.

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation has just reported that one in ten people in Scotland are living in “very deep” poverty and 250,000 children were living in relative poverty.

The impact on the most vulnerable members of our communities is horrendous, especially when combined with the severe economic constraints on support services. This also takes a toll on our hard working and dedicated staff members and volunteers across a range of organisations.

The latest statistics from Glasgow Health and Social Care Connect show a significant increase in referrals relating to poverty.

As I said, partner organisations are all working hard to make sure the most vulnerable members of our community are supported and protected through these extremely difficult times. This bumper edition of our bulletin helpfully lists a range of research initiatives, evidence based actions, best practice and events across the whole spectrum of public protection.

As concerns grow around a new variant of Covid 19 please continue to stay safe and healthy.

Best wishes

Colin

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

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Children, Young People & Education

[National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland - 2023 Update](#)

Amended version of the Child Protection Guidance issued by the Scottish Government.

[The Promise Scotland: Annual Review](#)

Following the publication of the Independent Care Review in 2020, The Promise Scotland was created to ensure that care experienced children and young people grow up loved, safe and respected. The Promise Scotland has published their annual review for 2022/23.

[Supporting Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing](#)

The Aye Mind website is a guide to help professionals to use digital tools to support children and young people's mental health and wellbeing. The refreshed site was recently launched and is a useful resource for staff.

[National Allowance for Foster and Kinship Carers](#)

The Scottish Government has announced a standard national allowance for foster and kinship carers across Scotland to support them in caring for the children and young people that they look after.

[The Impact of Coercive Control on Children and Young People](#)

NSPCC Learning has published a Helplines Insight Briefing of the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people who have experienced coercive control by parents or carers. The paper draws information from contact with adults and children through the NSPCC Helpline and explored themes around coercive control and the effect on children and young people.

[Children's Rights and the Youth Justice System](#)

IRISS Insight provides an overview of the current and developing youth justice policies and a discussion of the proposed United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) incorporation into legislation in Scottish youth justice.

[Children's Services Reform Research](#)

CELCIS has conducted a research study exploring if there is an association between the type of integration of health and social care services and the outcomes for children, young people and families in need of support in Scotland.

[Child Safeguarding and Immersive Technologies](#)

Report published by NSPCC Learning outlining the risks associated with immersive technologies (virtual and augmented reality) and the links to child sexual abuse and child sexual exploitation.

[Parental Participation at Child Protection Case Conferences](#)

IRISS Insights examines the experiences of parents who attend Initial CP Case Conferences.

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[Bairns' Hoose: Support for Child Victims](#)

BBC has reported on the pilot of Bairns' Hoose in Scotland, which provides multi-agency, holistic, child-centred support for victims/witnesses of abuse and to children under the age of criminal responsibility whose behaviour has caused harm. More information about the service can be found [here](#).

[Social Security Scotland - Child Payments](#)

Families who qualify for Scottish Child Payment are now automatically awarded Best Start Grant, Early Learning Payment and School Age Payment when their child becomes eligible, without them having to apply separately.

[Addressing the Support Needs of Carers of Sexually Exploited Children and Young People](#)

IRISS Insights article examining the support needs of non-offending carers after the discovery of child sexual abuse.

[Secure Care Pathway Review](#)

Report from the Care Inspectorate examining the experiences of children and young people in secure care and evaluating the impact of the Secure Care Pathway and Standards on young people and staff.

[Care Experience Week 22-29 October 2023](#)

An annual event celebrating the care experienced community and allowing members to reconnect with Who Cares? Scotland and each other. There are a number of events planned over the week and the organisation will also be launching a campaign focusing on the lifelong rights of care experienced people.

[Good Childhood Report](#)

Annual report from The Children's Society examining the wellbeing of children in the UK. The report explored the 'subjective' happiness of children and young people in relation to different aspects of life.

[Review of Children's Services Plans and Strategic Engagement Activity](#)

Report from the Scottish Government detailing the summary review of children's services in Scotland from 2020 to 2023. Highlights key strengths, areas for development and details of strategic engagement with local children's services planning strategic leads.

Disability

[The Impact of the Cost of Living Crisis on Disabled People](#)

Report from Glasgow Centre for Population Health and Glasgow Disability Alliance highlighting the impact of the cost of living crisis on the lives, health and wellbeing of disabled people.

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[Disability Charities Fear New Assessments Could Force People into Work](#)

Charities are concerned about the impact of proposed changes to the DWP's Work Capability Assessment's categories, including forcing people into work and reductions in benefits.

Autism, ADHD & Learning Difficulties

[Social Prescribing for Autistic People and People with Learning Disabilities](#)

Report from the Valuing People Alliance detailing the benefit of social prescribing for people with autism and learning disabilities and providing guidance for stakeholders.

[People with ADHD at Increased Risk of Mental Health Issues](#)

Article highlighting the increased risk of some mental health issues for people with ADHD.

[Social Work and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders](#)

IRISS Insights article about fetal alcohol spectrum disorders and implications for practice.

Mental Health

[Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland: Investigation into the Care and Treatment of AB](#)

The Commission has published an investigation into the circumstances leading up to the death of AB, who was an individual with a moderate learning disability and who was subject to the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) Scotland Act 2003 and Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 prior to their death. The report highlights findings about the care and treatment provided, recommendations about future practice and learning points.

[Inequalities in Mental Health Care for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities](#)

Report from NHS Race & Health Observatory exploring barriers to accessing mental health services for gypsy, Roma and traveller communities in England. The report includes recommendation for the NHS and UK Government to improve access to services.

[Core Mental Health Quality Standards](#)

The Scottish Government has published quality standards and specifications setting out expectations for mental health services providing high quality care to patients.

Adults, Older People & Dementia

[Joint Inspection of Adult Support and Protection](#)

The Care Inspectorate and scrutiny partners undertook a review of 25 adult protection partnerships in Scotland between 2020 and 2023. This report provides an overview of the findings, themes and key messages from the inspection about the effectiveness of ensuring adults at risk of harm are safe, supported and protected. The PowerPoint presentation can be found [here](#).

[Increase in Dementia Related Deaths](#)

6,277 deaths caused by Alzheimer's disease and other dementias were registered in 2022; an increase of 231 from 2021.

[Working with Older Adults with Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviours](#)

IRISS Insights paper examining the research relating to older adults and suicidal thoughts/behaviours and implications for practitioners.

[Working Together in Adult Support and Protection](#)

A course by IRISS to support professionals to work in collaboration with adults to achieve participation. It includes useful tools that can be used in partnership with service users through the stages of the Adult Support and Protection process.

[Multi-Agency Adult Support and Protection Conferences](#)

Course by IRISS to support professionals to understand the Adult Support and Protection case conference process and improve multi-agency practice.

Carers

[The Impact of Health Issues and Poverty on Carers](#)

A call for further action to prevent poor health outcomes and poverty for carers in Scotland.

[Increased Pressure on Carers](#)

UK wide survey by The Carers Trust examining experiences of unpaid adult carers in accessing support.

Housing & Homelessness

[New Strategy Outlines Plans to Help Ukrainians into Housing](#)

Warm Scots Future paper sets out priorities for Scotland's response to Ukrainian Refugees, including access to sustainable housing.

[Clinical Psychologists Working with and In Homelessness: Practice Guidelines](#)

University of Nottingham has published guidance for clinical psychologists who are working in services for people facing homelessness and severe multiple disadvantage.

Substance Use & Addictions

[Reduction in Drug-Related Deaths in Scotland](#)

Drug deaths fall to lowest level since 2017.

[Glasgow Pilot for Drug Consumption Room](#)

The pilot scheme for a consumption room for illicit drug use has been approved for Glasgow's east end.

[Alcohol and Drug Recovery Partnership Survey](#)

Scottish Government published the annual survey for Alcohol and Drug Recovery Partnerships in Scotland as part of the 2019 Partnership Delivery Framework.

[The Impact of New Psychoactive Drugs in Prison](#)

BBC News report on the introduction of new psychoactive substances on prisoners and the impact on behaviour and health.

Equality & Poverty

[Tipping the Scales: The Social and Economic Harm of Poverty in Scotland](#)

The Institute for Public Policy Research has published a report, in collaboration with Save the Children and The Joseph Rowntree Foundation, on the findings from a study examining the harm caused to individuals and families on low incomes.

[Women's Survey of the Cost of Living Crisis](#)

Scottish Women's Budget Group publish the findings of a survey looking at the impact of the rising cost of living for women in Scotland and provide recommendations for the Scottish Government and Local Authorities.

[Cost of Living Payments - Winter 2023](#)

Details of the planned cost of living payments for 2023.

[Challenge Poverty Week 2-8 October 2023](#)

An annual event highlighting the issue of poverty in Scotland and promoting a collective action response. Poverty impacts many people across Scotland, including 250000 children, with Covid 19 and the cost of living crisis contributing to increased financial pressures. This year the Poverty Alliance presents their five key policy asks: fair funding for the third sector; adequate incomes; food; housing and transport.

[Poverty in Scotland 2023](#)

A report from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation exploring current issues relating to poverty in Scotland, with a particular focus on in-work poverty and whether employment is working as a route out of poverty.

[The Cost of Living Crisis and Bed Poverty for Children](#)

Report from Barnardos exploring the cost-of-living crisis on children and access to essential items, such as beds.

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[How People Talk About Poverty and Hardship Online](#)

Project by Demos, in partnership with the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, exploring how people talk about their experiences of poverty and hardship in online forums and on social media and how this can support policy development.

Gender Based Violence

[Women with Learning Disabilities and Gender-Based Violence](#)

IRISS Insights article exploring gender-based violence towards women with learning disabilities and the implications for practice.

Refugees, Asylum, Trafficking and Immigration

[The Trauma Impact of Human Trafficking on Victims](#)

IRISS Insights explores the impact of human trafficking on victims in the UK and implications for practice.

[Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy Review](#)

Scottish Government's second review of the Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy evaluating the implementation, it's continued suitability and whether there are changes needed.

[Fair Way Scotland Evaluation Progress Report](#)

Fair Way Scotland is an organisation aiming to end destitution for people who have no recourse to public funds for immigrants and asylum seekers. This briefing provides an overview of their key findings from their first year evaluation and makes recommendations to the UK Government, Scottish Government and local authority and health partnerships.

Crime, Justice & Prisons

[Lived Experience of Victims of Repeat Violence](#)

Scottish Government report detailing a qualitative study of lived experience of repeat interpersonal violence in Scotland from in-depth interviews with victims and stakeholders.

[Deaths in Prison Custody in Scotland 2012-2022](#)

Scottish Government report of deaths in custody between 2012 and 2022.

[Experiences of Women in the Justice System](#)

Report summarising the work of the Women's Justice Leadership Panel in exploring the experiences of women in the justice system. Examines themes relating to the differences in women's experiences of the justice system in comparison to men and presents the key findings.

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[Victims, Witnesses, and Justice Reform Bill](#)

Factsheet from Scottish Government about the measures contained in the Bill addressing experiences of victims in the Scottish justice system.

Social Care, Practice & Workforce Matters

[Scottish Social Services Council: Mental Health Officers Report 2022](#)

Annual report from the SSSC providing national statistics on Mental Health Officers at national and local level within Scotland.

[Scottish Social Services Council: Report on 2022 Workforce Data](#)

Report from the SSSC collating data from the Care Inspectorate and Local Authorities about the social services workforce in Scotland.

[Review Recommends Increased Regulation for Social Care Staff](#)

An overview of the findings from The Independent Review of Inspection, Scrutiny and Regulation.

[Joint Inspection: East Renfrewshire Partnership](#)

Joint inspection of adult support and protection in the East Renfrewshire Partnership.

[Joint Inspection: East Lothian Partnership](#)

Joint inspection of adult support and protection in the East Lothian Partnership.

[Joint Inspection: Scottish Borders Partnership](#)

Joint inspection of services for children and young people at the risk of harm in the Scottish Borders Partnership.

[Care Home Inspection Report 2020 - 2022](#)

Care Inspectorate report highlighting key themes from work completed in care homes between 1st April 2020 and 31st December 2022.

[Independent Review of Inspection, Scrutiny and Regulation of Social Care in Scotland](#)

Report publishing the findings of a Scottish Government commissioned review of inspection, scrutiny and regulation of social care in Scotland.

[National Care Service: Regional Forum Reports](#)

Reports providing feedback from the Scottish Government events as part of the co-design of the National Care Service. The following reports can be accessed below:

Information sharing to improve care support: Summary of findings from regional forums [here](#).

Keeping care support local codesign theme part 1 – local services: Summary of findings from regional forums [here](#).

Keeping care support local part 2 – community health care: Summary of findings from regional forums [here](#).

Making sure your voice is heard: Summary of findings from regional forums [here](#).

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Realising rights and responsibilities: Summary of findings from regional forums [here](#).

Valuing the Workforce: Summary of findings from regional forums [here](#).

Online & Financial Harm

[Scam Share](#)

Trading Standards Scotland produce a weekly Scam Share bulletin. It looks at the latest phone, email and online scams affecting Scottish consumers. If you receive any emails to your work account which you suspect are phishing emails, please report these to the integrity mailbox at integrity@glasgow.gov.uk as soon as possible. To receive Trading Standards Scotland Scam Share e-bulletin click [here](#)

Events

[Trafficking Awareness Raising Webinar 24/10/23 2.00pm - 3.15pm](#)

Adult Support and Protection Spotlight Event: Webinar presentation by Audrey Hand, Trafficking Awareness Raising Alliance (TARA). TARA was established in 2004 to provide support for women aged 18 and over who may have been trafficked for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation having been recovered in Scotland. The purpose of this presentation is to raise awareness of the indicators, impact and complex support needs that human trafficking causes to potential victims of trafficking and to society overall.

[Understanding and Responding to Distress Behaviours in Young People 04/12/23 - 05/12/23](#)

Two day training course by Professor Lorraine Johnstone hosted at the University of Strathclyde for practitioners working with distressed young people who have care experience/developmental trauma. Please note there is a cost to attend this event.

[Masterclass: Adults with Incapacity \(Scotland\) Act 2000 02/11/23 10.30am - 12noon MS Teams](#)

The third in a series of masterclasses from The Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland and NHS Education for Scotland. The online session is aimed at the adult care workforce and social workers and will provide information on capacity, incapacity and related assessments.

[Cultural Awareness for Anti-racist Action at Work Webinar 26/10/24 12.30pm - 1.30pm](#)

Part of the Leading to Change Programme exploring cultural awareness and anti-racist action at work. Input from Calum Gallacher, Assistant General Secretary for the Social Workers Union followed by small group discussions. This is a free event.

[SASW Conference 2023: Reclaiming the Social in Social Work Online 29/11/23](#)

Annual SASW Conference including speakers and workshops. Free for BASW members and students. £15 + VAT for non-members.

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Forensic Network Research Special Interest Group - Annual Conference 02/11/23 MS Teams

Tenth annual research conference from The Forensic Network Research Special Interest Group with keynote presentations from Professor Brian McKenna, Professor of Forensic Mental Health – Auckland University of Technology and Dr Rhoda McCrae, Reader at the Alzheimer Scotland Centre for Policy & Practice – University West of Scotland. A number of workshops will be hosted during the conference along with rapid poster presentations. Please note that there is a cost to attend this event.

Informing and Supporting Action to Improve Health and Tackle Inequality Hybrid Seminar 03/11/23 9.00am - 1.00pm

Conference by Public Health Information Network for Scotland hosted at the Technology Innovation Centre, University of Strathclyde, Auditorium A, 99 George Street, Glasgow G1 1RD, and simultaneously online. This is a free event. The event programme can be found [here](#).

The Truth Project: Learning the Lessons for Practice from Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse Webinar 08/11/23 10.00am-12noon

Webinar for professionals working with victims/survivors of child sexual abuse hosted by The Truth Project which was set up as a listening exercise for victims and survivors of sexual abuse between 2016 and 2021. Input from Dr Danny Taggart, Clinical Psychologist and Clinical Lead and Principal Psychologist for the Truth Project, and Michael May, Engagement and Communications Consultant, and Lived Experience Advisor. This is a free event.

National Care Service National Forum 30/10/23 10.30am - 3.30pm

Event being held at the Glasgow Science Centre providing an opportunity for stakeholders, people who access care services, the social care workforce and carers (paid/unpaid) to contribute their views about the National Care Service. This is a free event.

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