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### Public Protection Bulletin

15<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear colleague,

It is now clear that despite our most vulnerable citizens receiving their booster and winter flu vaccinations, the Covid 19 threat remains significant and will continue to be so over the winter months.

As society continues to open up, there is a real risk that our most vulnerable people will feel even more at risk and isolated. It is imperative therefore that we all continue, where appropriate, to wear masks and observe social distancing and other precautionary measures.

For the foreseeable future, our member organisations and front-line workers will continue to face significant challenges. As public protection leaders and managers have a responsibility to focus on how we continue to 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. Despite some initial optimism that things might revert to face to face meetings, it is clear that this way of working will continue for some months.

People continue to tell us these bulletins are 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

#### [From Care Packages to Zoom Cookery Classes: Youth Work During the COVID-19 Lockdown](#)

A paper that explores the response of a large Irish youth work organisation to measures introduced during the initial phase of the pandemic in 2020.

#### [The Mental Health and Wellbeing of Adults with Intellectual Disability During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

A study that explored the literature on the mental health of adults with intellectual disability during the COVID-19 pandemic to describe what is known based on clinician perceptions, existing administrative health data, family and staff perceptions, and self-report.

#### [Triple Whammy: Disabled Women’s Lived Experiences of Covid-19](#)

Glasgow Disability Alliance engagement and support during Covid highlighted that particular inequalities for disabled women were quickly emerging. One group of GDA women described the “triple whammy” of being disabled, being a woman and dealing with Covid.

#### [One third of UK public says their mental health has deteriorated as a result of the pandemic](#)

A nationwide survey commissioned by the Royal College of Psychiatrists reveals the devastating impact of the pandemic on the nation’s mental health, with one in three (29%) adults reporting their mental health deteriorated over the past two years.

### Children, Young People & Education

#### [Children’s Care and Justice Bill - Consultation](#)

The Children’s Care and Justice Bill (Consultation on Policy Proposals) invites views on a range of matters including the Children’s Hearings System; the criminal justice system; secure care; cross-border placements; and the review period for the age of criminal responsibility. The consultation runs until June 22

#### [Children’s Social Work Statistics 2020/21](#)

Annual statistics for Scotland for 2020 to 2021, including data on looked after children and young people, and those on the child protection register and in secure care accommodation.

#### [NHS Lothian launches innovative digital Wellbeing Hub](#)

NHS Lothian Children's Services is giving thousands of children and young people across Scotland access to important wellbeing resources with the launch of a new digital Wellbeing Hub.

#### [Child Q Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review](#)

The report contains two recommendations, calling for the Department for Education to “review and revise” its 2018 guidance on “searching, screening and confiscation”, parts of which it said could “run the risk of promoting poor practice”.

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### [Supporting Parents and Carers](#)

It is not uncommon for parents and carers to feel judged by professionals who sometimes assume they knew about the abuse or appear to see them as failing to protect their child. These feelings can be particularly difficult for a parent if the abuse was carried out by their partner or another of their children. As such, how professionals react and engage with parents and carers is vital – they need respectful, open and honest relationships with the professionals supporting them.

### [Research-Based Risk Factors for Child Maltreatment: Do Child Protection Workers Use them in their Case Investigations?](#)

A study that examined whether child protection workers focus on evidence-based risk factors for child maltreatment.

### [Tackling Child Poverty and Destitution: next steps for the Scottish Child Payment and the Scottish Welfare Fund](#)

Save the Children and the Trussell Trust have published new research by the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) into the effectiveness and future of the Scottish Child Payment and Scottish Welfare Fund.

### [Born into Care - Developing best practice guidelines for when the state intervenes at birth](#)

The Nuffield Family Justice Observatory (Nuffield FJO) has published a report on findings from a study looking at the removal of new-born babies from their mother in response to safeguarding concerns.

### [Mental Health Conditions in Young People - Video](#)

The Association for Child and Adolescent Mental Health (ACAMH) has released a video sharing some of the latest insights into the prevalence of common mental health conditions in children and young people.

### [Home education guidance - consultation launch](#)

This Scottish Government consultation seeks views on the proposed updates to the home education guidance. The guidance sets out the roles and responsibilities of local authorities and parents in relation to home education. Closes 13 July 2022.

### [Fears over teacher safeguarding investigations](#)

BBC News reports that concerns have been raised that some misconduct allegations against teachers in Scotland are not being properly investigated.

## **Mental Health**

### [Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland Visits: Fourteen New Reports – March 2022](#)

Fourteen new reports from the Commission's visits to NHS hospital wards and units for people with mental ill health, learning disability or dementia.

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### [National Trauma Training](#)

There is now a newsletter which provides updates in relation to trauma training and policy and practice in this area. The latest edition is available here where you can also subscribe to future editions.

### [Recovery](#)

Scottish Recovery Network have a video 'let's talk about recovery' which provides an understanding of what recovery may mean to people who experience mental health problems.

### [Mental Health Services](#)

Support in Mind Scotland have an information service for advice and support for people trying to find mental health services available in Scotland.

## Disability

### [Adult Disability Payment pilot opens for new applications](#)

The new Adult Disability Payment has opened for applications from people living in three pilot areas. People can apply who live in Dundee City, Perth and Kinross and Western Isles council areas, are aged between 16 and state pension age, and are disabled, have a long-term health condition or have a terminal illness.

### [Inclusion Scotland Publishes Shadow Report for UN CRPD Committee](#)

Every 4 years, the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Disabled People reviews the UK's performance on disabled people's rights. To inform the next review, Inclusion Scotland has worked with a steering group of disabled people's organisations and third sector organisations to produce a shadow report on the issues facing disabled people in Scotland today.

## Autism, ADHD & Learning Difficulties

### [Early Positive Approaches to Support \(E-PATs\)](#)

An evaluation of the experiences of participants in a support programme for family caregivers of young children with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

### [Speak out Stay safe for children with additional needs and disabilities](#)

NSPCC Learning has updated the Speak out Stay safe programme. The programme is suitable for pupils with moderate learning disabilities, additional learning needs and/or autism.

### [Working with an Interpreter](#)

The Mental Welfare Commission have a Good Practice Guide to '[working with an interpreter](#)' as well as guidance for people who use mental health and/or learning disability services '[what you should know when you need an interpreter](#)'.

## Older People & Dementia

### [The State of Ageing 2022](#)

This report uses publicly available data to give a snapshot of what life is like for people aged 65 and older today. It then investigates the prospects for people currently in their 50s and 60s.

## Carers

### [Under Pressure](#)

A briefing paper on the financial challenges facing unpaid carers in light of the UK's cost of living crisis.

### [Problematising Carer Identification](#)

A study that explored the carer self-identification practices of older partners providing end-of-life care.

## Housing & Homelessness

### [Housing First and the Dogs Trust](#)

Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership's (HSCP) Housing First team have been working with the Dogs Trust in a mutually beneficial volunteer programme.

### [Interventions to Treat Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in Vulnerably Housed Populations and Trauma-Informed Care](#)

An overview of the literature on the treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and complex PTSD in people who are vulnerably housed.

## Substance Use & Addictions

### [What are LGBTQ+ people's experiences of alcohol services in Scotland? A qualitative study of service users and service providers.](#)

New Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) research on LGBTQ+ people's experiences of alcohol services was led by Professor Carol Emslie with Dr Elena Dimova, Dr Rosaleen O'Brien, Professor Lawrie Elliott and Dr Jamie Frankis, from the University's Substance Use research group in the Research Centre for Health (ReaCH).

### ["He is lovely and awful"](#)

A paper that explores the challenges of being close to an individual with alcohol problems.

### [£25 million funding for drugs services](#)

A total of 77 initiatives working with people affected by drug use are to receive awards totalling more than £25 million over the next five years. Almost 80 projects set to benefit.

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### Equality & Poverty

#### [UK Government Spring Statement](#)

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) and the Resolution Foundation have published analysis modelling the impact of the changes announced in the UK Government's Spring Statement.

### Gender Based Violence

#### [Scotland's Public Health Priorities and Violence Against Women and Girls](#)

A series of reports covering the links between violence against women and girls and Scotland's six public health priorities.

#### [Pharmacies launch codeword scheme to offer 'lifeline' to domestic abuse victims](#)

The UK government has teamed up with independent pharmacies and Boots to launch a domestic abuse Ask for ANI codeword scheme. Victims of domestic abuse are now able to access much needed support from thousands of pharmacies across the UK.

#### [Awareness raising of NHS rape and sexual assault service launched](#)

A marketing campaign has been launched to ensure people know about a dedicated national NHS service that offers choices in healthcare, forensic examination and support after a rape or sexual assault.

The national service, which is to be implemented across all health boards, will allow those aged 16 and over to self-refer for a forensic health examination at a Sexual Assault Response Coordination Service (SARCS), whether or not they wish to report to the police.

Work is currently ongoing in Glasgow for two new suites for Archway Glasgow.

To contact Archway Glasgow directly for advice, please phone: 0141 211 8175. Archway is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

If you are supporting someone who wishes to self-refer, please advise them to visit: [www.nhsinform.scot/SARCS](http://www.nhsinform.scot/SARCS).

### Refugees, Asylum, Trafficking and Immigration

#### [Supporting Child Refugees and their Families](#)

CELCIS have published this resource, designed to help people in Scotland working with and supporting children and families in professional, voluntary or personal capacity, and across Europe. This focuses on child protection and safeguarding, supporting mental and physical wellbeing including trauma, and the needs of children who require care.

### Crime, Justice & Prisons

#### [How do we talk about community justice?](#)

Community Justice Scotland is delighted to announce the launch of two new resources. A free, [framing toolkit](#) is now available to support people and organisations shape how they speak, write and communicate about community justice in ways that have the potential to

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increase public awareness and confidence in it as a sentencing option. This is accompanied by a new [national image library](#) with real-life photographs of community justice.

### [Breaking the links between poverty and offending](#)

‘Poverty is real and standards of living are likely to fall further.’ As Scotland’s Child Poverty Delivery Plan is launched, Maureen Roberts reflects on why it’s more important than ever to break the links between deprivation and offending behaviour.

## **Fraud, Online & Financial Harm**

### [Donating to Charity Safely](#)

Sadly, the charity sector can be an attractive target for criminals. Criminals may set up fake websites and social media profiles during publicised disasters in order to steal funds from generous donations. These can be tricky to spot as they are made to look like the official pages.

Charities welcome your generosity in their support and by making simple online checks before you give, you can ensure your money reaches genuine registered charities.

### [Impersonation Fraud and how you can help prevent it](#)

Impersonation fraud is when someone phones you or comes to your house and pretends to be from an official organisation, like the police or your bank. While pretending to be this official, they may ask questions to get personal information from you to be able to access your bank accounts / get money from you or steal from your home.

If you would like to know more information about impersonation fraud, then Police Scotland have also produced a [short video explaining what impersonation fraud can involve](#).

### [Supporting a child if they see upsetting content online about what is happening in Ukraine](#)

Along with the many positive things which young people may see or experience online, they may also encounter things which may worry or upset them.

With world events surrounding the Ukraine and Russian conflict, young people may be hearing words like ‘bombing’, ‘invasion’ and ‘World War Three’ in posts on Instagram, TikTok and other social media sites. Young people on social media may be seeing a range of posts; some factual, some memes, some scaremongering, and may be worried or confused about what is happening and the impact this may have on them.

### [Children’s media use](#)

Ofcom has released a report exploring how media was understood and used by children and young people aged 3-17 in the UK in 2021. Findings include: in the past 12 months, 36% of children aged 8-17 said they had seen something ‘worrying or nasty’ online.

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### Social Care & Practice

[Adult support and protection - code of practice and guidance: consultation analysis - summary report](#)

This report summarises the feedback received during the Scottish Government consultation on proposed updates to the code of practice and Adult Protection Committees (APC) guidance.

[National Wellbeing Hub](#)

The National Well-being Hub continues to offer a variety of resources for health & social care staff including a [programme of webinars](#).

### Events

[Alcohol Occasionals - Youth drinking in decline, 20/04/22, 12:30 – 14:00, Zoom](#)

Scottish Health Action on Alcohol Problems (SHAAP) and the Scottish Alcohol Research Network (SARN) present Dr Inge Kersbergen and Dr Laura Fenton on the implications of the decline in youth drinking for policy and practice.

[The relationship between poverty and child abuse and neglect: new evidence, 26/04/22, 14:00 - 15:15, Zoom](#)

In this webinar Professor Paul Bywaters will outline the key findings of a new review of international evidence about the relationship between poverty and child abuse and neglect.

[CPCScotland Neglect Learning Series 2022, Prebirth and Infants, 21/04/22, 09:30 – 11:00, Teams](#)

### **From the beginning: Family Group Decision Making for unborn babies and young infants**

This session will offer attendees the opportunity to:

- Increase their awareness about Family Group Decision Making, and the strengths-based approach to working with families, as highlighted in the National Protection Guidance.
- Explore the principles, practice and approach used by the Edinburgh Family Group Decision Making Service when working with families where are are unborn babies or infants at risk.
- Consider how this strengths-based approach to working with families can be used to address areas of concern, including child neglect, and the practice principles that inform this.