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Public Protection Bulletin

18th February 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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National Adult Support and Protection Day 2022

[Scotland's National Adult Support and Protection Awareness Day](#) will this year take place on 20 February. Looking ahead to the day, Health and Social Care Scotland has highlighted a Scottish Government animation which talks about what to look out for in keeping adults safe and offers links to where you can find help and support.

Learning Reviews

[Glasgow Public Protection Committees Learning Review Protocol](#)

The national guidance on Significant Case Reviews has been subject to an in-depth review and replaced by a new system and guidance, now called Case Learning Reviews. Glasgow's Protocol has been updated in accordance with this guidance. This new approach is based on looking at and understanding the "whole system" impact on the cases in question and with an unequivocal emphasis on learning.

Any member of the Public Protection Committees, agency or practitioner can ask for a case to be considered by the Committee for a Learning Review if they believe it meets the criteria. A [Learning Review Notification](#) must be completed by the referrer.

COVID – 19

[Depression and Anxiety Symptoms and Perceived Stress in Health Professionals in the Context of COVID-19: Do Adverse Childhood Experiences Have a Modulating Effect?](#)

An exploration of the relationship between mental health problems in health professionals, the care of patients with COVID-19 and early adverse events.

[The Impact of Early Stages of COVID-19 on the Mental Health of Autistic Adults in the United Kingdom](#)

A mixed methods study that aimed to learn about the nature and drivers of mental health changes among autistic adults in the United Kingdom during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic.

[‘They already operated like it was a crisis, because it always has been a crisis’: a qualitative exploration of the response of one homeless service in Scotland to the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic has necessitated unprecedented changes in the way that services are delivered to individuals experiencing homelessness and problem substance use. Protecting those at high risk of infection/transmission, whilst addressing the multiple health and social needs of this group, is of utmost importance. The aim of this novel qualitative study was to document how one service in Scotland, the Wellbeing Centre run by The Salvation Army, adapted in response.

[Health inequalities: Mental health case studies](#)

Explore case studies from councils and how COVID-19 exacerbated people's mental health and wellbeing. This work informs part of the health inequalities hub, which is funded by UK Government.

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Children, Young People & Education

Learning About Neglect - Save the Dates

The Child Protection Committees (CPC) Scotland, with support from CELCIS and Scottish Government, will be delivering a series of free, online learning events from March to June 2022. Across four webinars, child protection leaders and practitioners across Scotland will have opportunities to engage with key speakers and organisations on child neglect and practice. The key themes and practice areas we will be exploring are:

17 March - Thinking critically about neglect

21 April - Prebirth and infants

19 May - Early years and primary school age

16 June - Young people and adolescents

Over the next few weeks, we will share further information on each of the events, including a registration link to secure your place. You can also note your interest in attending by emailing celcis.learning@strath.ac.uk.

Scottish Government National Child Online Safety Campaign

The campaign aims to increase awareness of the importance of online safety to parents and carers of children aged 8-11 year olds. It provides practical advice for parents and guardians on how to check and monitor their child's online activity by speaking regularly about online safety and taking an interest in what they do online; discussing and agreeing boundaries; setting safety measures. The campaign also provides clear signposting for parents and children towards additional support.

The campaign includes Digital TV and radio coverage, social media activity, website advertising, and press coverage. A supporting hub at parentclub.scot/online-safety is packed with practical ideas and advice for parents to feel more confident and informed on the steps they can take to keep their children safer online. A stakeholder toolkit can be found here - <https://www.parentclub.scot/online-safety/partner-resources>.

[Collaborating to improve attainment for school pupils](#)

Over the last year, the Fraser of Allander Institute have been exploring a new collaboration to see how data and software tools can facilitate progress towards tackling the poverty-related attainment gap in Scotland.

[Child Abuse in Children Living with Special Guardians: a Service Evaluation of Child Protection Medical Examinations](#)

A study that aimed to determine the difference in frequency of referral for child protection medical examination in children subject to a special guardianship order, a child protection plan or neither.

[Joint Investigative Interviewing in Scotland: Provision of Non-Suggestive Social Support](#)

The findings of a project that was established with a primary remit of drawing on national and international research and best practice, to create a model for joint investigative interviewing tailored to the Scottish context.

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[Compassionate Distress Response Service](#)

The Young People's (16-25) Compassionate Distress Response Service is now open to referrals from 3rd sector organisations in Glasgow. If you work with young people who experience emotional distress, you can refer them to the service and they will receive a call the same day.

[Know Your Rights When Entering Custody](#)

New guidance for children in custody has been produced by Children and Young people's Centre for Justice and Young People's Commissioner Scotland.

[Helping care experienced families](#)

Families with children who are on the edges of care, or have experience of care, will be among those to benefit from more than £3 million in cash support. The funding, which is being distributed by local authorities and third sector organisations, will help those with immediate needs for food, fuel, utilities or clothing.

[Developing practice for care records in Scotland](#)

A briefing for all staff involved in writing, managing or supporting access to care records has been published by the Centre for excellence for Children's Care and Protection (CELCIS).

[Adverse Childhood Experiences \(ACEs\) and Trauma](#)

The Scottish Government has released a factsheet detailing its work to prevent and reduce the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and trauma in children and young people.

Mental Health

[Service User Perspectives of Community Mental Health Services for People with Complex Emotional Needs](#)

A paper that evidences the experiences and perspectives of a diverse range of people on how community services can best address the needs of people with complex emotional needs.

[New report published into perinatal mental wellbeing, Health, Social Care and Sport Committee](#)

The report details recommendations for the Scottish Government, including access to support services, the need for joined up care, and support for birthing trauma, amongst other factors. The report also calls for the Government to link more closely with the NHS and accelerate the roll out of specialist baby units.

Disability

[Misfitting and Social Practice Theory: Incorporating Disability into the Performance and \(Re\)Enactment of Social Practices](#)

A paper that considers how and in what circumstances common social practices are adjusted or changed by or for disabled people, and the impact of these adjustments on disabled people themselves.

[New Independent Advocacy Service opens](#)

People with disabilities are now able to access a new advocacy service to get help applying for Scottish social security benefits.

[Office for National Statistics: Outcomes for disabled people in the UK: 2021](#)

Outcomes for disabled people in the UK across a number of areas of life, such as employment, education, well-being, loneliness, crime and social participation. Statistical indicators based on annual data from various sources.

Autism, ADHD & Learning Difficulties

[Mothers speak out over sons locked in psychiatric units](#)

Three mothers whose sons have been locked in hospital psychiatric units in Scotland for years have spoken to BBC Scotland because they are desperate to get them out. The three young men did not break the law but have autism and learning disabilities.

Older People & Dementia

[Responses and Interventions to Delusions Experienced by Community-Dwelling Older Persons With Dementia](#)

A study that examined how family caregivers react, and what interventions they use in response to delusions exhibited by relatives with dementia.

[Last in Line](#)

A paper that looks at the current levels of discourse within government and the general public around the abuse of older people, and the level of public commitment to tackling the issue.

[Supporting older people to live active, healthy lives- free online course](#)

Are you interested in helping older people to remain as independent as possible by supporting them to move more often? This free short course could be a helpful way to learn more about the topic and find new ideas to try. This may be particularly helpful if you are concerned about the impact on many older people having to be less active due to Covid-19

Carers

[Predictors of Caregiver Burden Among Carers of Suicide Attempt Survivors](#)

A study that aimed to determine the predictors of caregiver burden in those carers who support people who have attempted suicide.

[The Carers Trust: 'Pushed to the edge: Life for unpaid carers in the UK' Report](#)

The Scottish Government should develop a new Unpaid Carers Strategy in partnership with unpaid carers and relevant stakeholders, according to this report.

Housing & Homelessness

[Homelessness - 'It will crumble men': the views of staff and service users about facilitating the identification and support of people with an intellectual disability in homeless services](#)

People with an intellectual disability (ID) face significant health inequalities and barriers to accessing appropriate support, which are made worse if the person is also homeless. An important barrier is that services may not recognise that the person has ID. This qualitative study explored the views of staff members and service users about the identification and support needs of homeless people with ID and the role of an ID screening questionnaire as a way to help improve service provision.

Substance Use & Addictions

[Scottish charity 'befriends' alcoholics to help them stay sober](#)

An Edinburgh charity has started a new service to befriend people suffering from alcohol-related illness while they are in hospital.

[1,000 Naloxone kits delivered by the Scottish Ambulance Service](#)

These life-saving kits have been distributed by ambulance clinicians to those at risk and their families, and can be used at any future overdose while waiting for the ambulance to arrive. A total of 75 per cent of crews have been trained to give THN kits to people at risk of a non-fatal overdose or potential future overdose.

[Alcohol related hospital statistics: Scotland financial year 2020 to 2021](#)

Alcohol-related hospital admissions were 10% lower in 2020/21 compared to the year before.

Equality & Poverty

[Energy prices and their effect on households](#)

As the cost of living rises for households across Great Britain, growing energy prices disproportionately impact those on lower incomes.

Gender Based Violence

[Life Histories and Lifelines: A Methodological Symbiosis for the Study of Female Genital Mutilation](#)

An analysis of the use of life histories and lifelines in the study of female genital mutilation in the context of cross-cultural research in participants with language differences.

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[Gendered Attributions of Blame and Failure to Protect in Child Welfare Responses to Sexual Abuse](#)

A paper that uses a feminist critical discourse analysis to expose and disrupt dominant discourses of gender, motherhood, and risk that operate to construct and reinforce notions of blame and failure to protect in child sexual abuse cases.

Refugees, Asylum, Trafficking and Immigration

[Complex PTSD and Post-Migration Living Difficulties in Traumatized Refugees and Asylum Seekers: the Role of Language Acquisition and Barriers](#)

A study that aimed to investigate homogeneous subgroups of complex PTSD and their association with demographic variables, traumatic experiences, and empirically derived factors of post-migration living difficulties among Afghan refugees and asylum seekers in Austria.

[What could the anti-refugee bill mean for survivors of trafficking?](#)

The UK Government's Nationality & Borders Bill, the anti-refugee bill, will have a serious impact for survivors and victims of trafficking.

Crime, Justice & Prisons

[Criminal Justice Social Work Statistics in Scotland: 2020-21](#)

Statistical information on criminal justice social work activity in Scotland in the first full year affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Carlisle modern slavery boss given suspended sentence](#)

A modern slaver whose disabled victim was exploited for 40 years has been given a suspended prison sentence.

[The Vision for Justice in Scotland](#)

The Scottish Government set out their transformative vision of the future justice system for Scotland, spanning the full journey of criminal, civil and administrative justice, with a focus on creating safer communities and shifting societal attitudes and circumstances which perpetuate crime and harm.

Online & Financial Harm

[WhatsApp: Scam costs Welsh victims thousands of pounds](#)

Victims of a WhatsApp scam have been left thousands of pounds poorer after being tricked into handing over cash.

[Redraft of Online Safety Bill to include harsher restrictions](#)

A redraft of the proposed Online Safety Bill is to include harsher restrictions on pornographic websites to link with Safer Internet Day (8 February 2022), the UK Government has announced. The Bill, currently in draft form, will now include a new legal duty requiring all sites that publish pornography to put robust checks in place to ensure their users are 18 years old or over.

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[All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online](#)

Resources for parents and carers are designed to help spark conversations with your child about staying safe online.

[Romance and Companionship Scams](#)

The Advice Direct Scotland Romance and Companionship Scams campaign (ROMCOM) will look at the tactics employed by scammers who exploit situations of isolation and loneliness of their targets for personal gain.

Social Care & Practice

[Social Care](#)

An Audit Scotland briefing paper that calls for urgent action to change how Scotland's social care services are delivered so that it meets the needs, and improves the experience of, people relying on care and support.

[New personal planning support session](#)

The Care Inspectorate ELC Improvement Team have recorded a short bite size session to support personal planning guidance released in November 2021.

This session highlights the key messages from the guidance and helps to support staff in services to develop personal plans for children, young people and adults.

[Joint inspection of adult support and protection reports, Care Inspectorate](#)

The focus of these inspections was on whether adults at risk of harm in the inspection areas were safe, protected and supported.

[Joint inspection of adult support and protection measures in Clackmannanshire](#)

[Joint inspection of adult support and protection measures in Falkirk](#)

[Joint inspection of adult support and protection measures in Stirling](#)

[Guidance on Self-Directed Support \(SDS\) during the Pandemic](#)

The Scottish Government has advised that it has updated the Guidance on Self-Directed Support (SDS) during the Pandemic.

Events

[Halt Service](#)

Every month there are information sessions for new and experienced workers to hear more about the service and work that the Halt Service do. These take place every month and last for roughly 1 hour. They are currently held on MS Teams. The dates for 2022 are:

Tuesday 1st March 10am – 11am Tuesday 29th March 10am – 11am

Tuesday 26th April 10am – 11am Tuesday 24th May 10am – 11am

Tuesday 21st June 10am – 11am

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If you would like to know more about us and meet someone from the team, please contact the Halt Service on **0141 276 1440** to book your place. They will require an email address to send the MS Teams invite to.

[SHAAP Managed Alcohol Programme \(MAP\) Webinar, 23/02/22, 14:00 – 16:00](#)

This webinar aims to exchange knowledge and allow discussion to equip people and organisations who work with homeless people and/or people with Alcohol Use Disorders with knowledge on MAPs, how they work, what makes them work, what should be taken into account, and lessons that have been learned in Canada, London and in the early stages of development of the MAP in Glasgow.

[Welcome to Your Vote webinars - supporting care experienced young people, 25/02/22](#)

You can now register for one of the Welcome to your Vote webinars, being held in partnership with the Electoral Commission, Aberlour and the office of the Children and Young People's Commissioner for Scotland. They would particularly like to invite people who work in children and young people care services to discuss why, how, and what you can do to help young care experienced people to vote.

Friday 25 February 2022: [Session 1: 10.30-11.30](#) [Session 2: 13.30-14.30](#)

If you have a question that you would like answered at the session, please send it in advance to paula.caird@careinspectorate.gov.scot by 24 February 2022.

[Virtual launch of Let's Get Communities Connected App, 01/03/22, 14:00 – 14:35](#)

After much anticipation, Community Justice Glasgow in partnership with Glasgow Girls Club are delighted to host a virtual launch the Let's Get Communities Connected App. Register for the virtual launch and find out what the App is about, see a demonstration of how to use it and how to download it onto your device.

The App is essentially a directory of interventions that can support organisations - Public Sector, 3rd or Charitable Sector and Grass Roots in the wide eco-system of Community Justice - working with people with lived experience of the Justice System.

It will help you to locate services and activities in people's own areas, leveraging in support that can help the people you are working with to meet their individual needs and aspirations, and, reduce the risk that they will re-offend. It is about connecting people into their own communities.

[International Women's Day, Harm Reduction for women who use drugs, 08/03/22, 13.30 – 17:00](#)

This online event will highlight some of the key issues facing women who use drugs in our society, and showcase examples from Scotland and internationally of ways to work with women to reduce the harms they experience.