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Public Protection Bulletin 19th February 2025

Dear colleague,

20th February 2025 is **National Adult Support and Protection Awareness Day**. This year's theme is financial harm. Financial harm can cover theft, fraud and pressure to sign over property or money. It also relates to rogue traders, online scammers and misuse of benefits.

People can be at increased risk to be harmed financially through factors such as ill health, trauma and physical or mental health conditions.

It can happen anywhere - in someone's home, where they work, or in a public place - and is often caused by the people closest to them. It can even happen in places responsible for keeping someone safe, such as a care home, hospital or day centre.

It's important to speak up about any concerns you have, as the person may not be able to do so themselves.

If you're worried that someone is at risk of harm or neglect from others - or harming or neglecting themselves - visit www.glasgowadultprotection.org.uk for all the relevant contact details.

Alternatively, you can contact the Police on 101 or call 999 if you believe the person is in immediate danger.

You can help us spread the word by sharing www.actagainstharm.org as the necessary resource for people who are concerned about the wellbeing of an individual. You can also watch a [short video](#) about financial harm.

As usual, this edition carries a full range of research, articles, activities, and events covering the full spectrum of public protection.

If you have something new to share or publicise that might be of interest to our subscribers, then please do not hesitate to contact Michelle Brown at Michelle.Brown2@glasgow.gov.uk.

Best wishes

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

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Adults, Older People & Dementia

[Findings a Safe Home After Hospital: Case study research on supported housing and healthcare partnerships](#)

Research from the National Housing Federation which explores existing evidence on the impact of housing-related delayed hospital discharges and the important role that supported housing can play in preventing delays and alleviating pressure on the NHS. Drawing on a series of case studies, this report showcases how the NHS and supported housing providers are working together to remove barriers to finding a safe home and support people leaving hospital at the right time for their recovery.

Children, Young People & Families

[Artificial Intelligence and Online Child Sexual Exploitation](#)

WeProtect Global Alliance today unveiled a compelling short film, [Protect Us](#), exposing the harrowing ways generative AI applications and chatbots are being weaponised to exploit children online. Premiering today at the DLD Conference in Munich, the film calls on global leaders to take decisive action to safeguard children and young people.

[Safeguarding Voice: Effectively engaging fathers in safeguarding practice podcast](#)

Future Men has released a podcast episode looking at how to engage fathers in safeguarding practice and involve them in support for children and young people. The episode explores current research, engagement strategies and the impact this can have on children, families and communities.

[Behind the Screen - Sexually Coerced Extortion of Boys and Young Men](#)

Childline has launched a new campaign, Behind the Screen, raising awareness of the sexually coerced extortion of boys and young men. Sexually coerced extortion or 'sextortion' is a form of online blackmail involving a threat to share intimate or explicit images or videos to extort money or get someone to do something against their will. The campaign resources include a new film aimed at young people which involves an AI generated image challenge and a guide for professionals which looks at what sexually coerced extortion is and how to support young people.

[Help Emerging for Children of Parents who Hoard](#)

An article from the Guardian which highlights that local authorities are being urged to intervene earlier when there are children whose parents hoard. HoardingUK charity is also preparing to launch dedicated online support group in April.

[Advice for Parents or Carers of Children Who Are Being Sexually Extorted or 'Sextorted'](#)

This guide from the Internet Watch Foundation aims to empower parents by providing essential steps and insights on how to handle the traumatic situation of child sextortion. By understanding the nature of the crime and taking prompt action, you can support your child and work towards mitigating the potential harm caused.

[Children's Manifesto Expresses Hope for Better Education on AI Ahead of Paris AI Action Summit](#)

An article from The Alan Turing Institute highlighting the messages from a children's manifesto which was published at the AI Action Summit in Paris where

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children and young people want to see better education on AI to improve understanding and maximise its use.

[State of the Nations' Foster Care: Full report](#)

This report from State of the Nations presents the full findings from the 2024 survey and sets out recommendations for governments, placing authorities and fostering services. There is also a [summary report](#).

[CELCIS Emerging Insights Series - Children's Services Reform Research: Getting it Right for Every Child \(GIRFEC\) and its implementation](#)

This webinar from CELCIS offered attendees the opportunity to gain insights into the themes and findings of the Children's Services Reform Research study to understand the significance of these for efforts to reform services, and to explore where we are now and what it takes to make change happen to provide the essential learning needed for progressing improvements to make transformational and meaningful change in children's services. This is a recording of the webinar.

[Parenting Through Adversity: Parents of babies & children 0 to 10](#)

A practice guide for young children and their families, commissioned by the UK government, has been published by Foundations. It looks at parenting through adversity for children under 10.

[The Oversight Board for The Promise: Report three February 2025](#)

On the 5th anniversary of The Promise, The Oversight Board published its third progress report which focuses on whole family support and the workforce, and it reveals that The Promise is not currently on track.

[Care Experienced Children and Young People: Research insights from administrative data](#)

This report from the National Centre for Social Research summarises some key insights on children's experiences with social care, which have been generated through research using administrative data. It serves as a source of evidence for policymakers and practitioners working to support children. It also provides a rich example of the power of administrative data to enable critical research evidence that can improve lives. There is also an [infographic](#).

[Scotland's Children's Services Plans 2023-2026 Review: Improving outcomes for children, young people and families](#)

A review of children's services plans for 2023 to 2026, in line with Part 3 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. This report from the Scottish Government presents key findings from the review of Scotland's 30 Children's Services Plans (CSPs) which cover the planning cycle for 2023 to 2026.

Crime, Justice & Prisons

[A Review of Antisocial Behaviour in Scotland](#)

A report from the Children and Young Person's Centre for Justice (CYCJ) which presents a review of the antisocial behaviour literature and a Qualtrics survey was developed in partnership between the ASB Independent Working Group and the Children and Young People's Centre for Justice (CYCJ).

Disability, Learning Difficulties & Neurodiversity

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[Research Finds That Young Adults with Learning Disabilities Are Dying Prematurely](#)

Young adults with learning disabilities are nine times more likely to die from treatable causes compared to those in the general population, according to Glasgow researchers. The new study, led by the Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory, also found that overall, for adults of all ages with learning disabilities, the risk of premature mortality is three times higher.

Education

[Home Education Guidance](#)

The Scottish Government has published updated Home Education Guidance, which outlines the responsibilities of local authorities and considerations which need to take place when a request is made to withdraw a child from school.

[Financially Motivated Sexual Extortion: Alert for education settings](#)

An alert from the National Crime Agency about the increase in reports of children and young people being forced into financially motivated sexual extortion.

[Schools in Scotland Witness an Increase in Violence](#)

An article from The Guardian which highlights that Scottish schools are facing “an exponential increase” in pupil violence, with classroom behaviour deteriorating “massively” and absences outstripping England, according to teaching unions, behaviour experts and opposition politicians.

Equality & Poverty

[Understanding the Cost of Living Crisis in Scotland](#)

This report from the Scottish Government draws together analysis from a wide range of sources to provide a summary overview of evidence on the cost of living crisis and its impact on Scotland. It includes evidence from Scotland and the UK as well as from other European countries.

Events & Courses

[Children's Services Reform Research: Improving transitions for care experienced young people - 20/02/25 - 10am-12noon - MS Teams](#)

Transitions in life are critical for us all. For children and young people with experience of care, ensuring that moving from the support of children’s services to the support needed from adult services is well planned, and puts a young person’s needs at the centre, is essential to providing what all young people need. What have we learned from the [Children’s Services Reform Research study](#) about transitions, and how can the components of integration model help to address the gaps and barriers experienced during these transitions? Join CELCIS on 20 February when they’ll look at the findings of the research and hear from the Dean and Cauvin Trust, The Rock Trust and North Lanarkshire Council, and The Why Not? Trust to discuss these questions.

[Cyber Scotland Week 2025: Keeping children safe online - 25/02/25 - 5.30pm-6pm - Online](#)

In partnership with Police Scotland’s Cybercrime Harm Prevention Team, Parenting Across Scotland is hosting a virtual event for parents and carers during Cyber Scotland Week 2025. The event will explore how you can help keep yourself and

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your loved ones safe whilst online - there will be a short presentation by Police Scotland, followed by the opportunity to ask questions.

[Sibling sexual abuse: The implications for practice of research conducted since 1980 webinar - 25/02/25 - 12 noon-1pm MS Teams](#)

In this webinar from CYCJ, Dr Peter Yates will provide an overview of some of the main findings and key recommendations for practice from a comprehensive review of forty years of research on sibling sexual abuse. This review was published in the [Child Abuse and Neglect Journal](#) in 2024.

[How to Support a Person with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder webinar - 26/02/24 - 1pm-2pm](#)

Webinar from Learning Disability Today aimed at parents, carers and professionals working in health and social care. The webinar includes presentations from Brian Roberts, Director of Education & Wellbeing, National Organisation for FASD and Georgia Roberts, Self-advocate who will discuss innovative approaches to help support those living with the condition.

[ASP Spotlight Session: Financial harm webinar - 26/02/25 - 11am-12noon - MS Teams](#)

This webinar will explore the different types of financial harm that practitioners can encounter in day to day ASP practice. This includes 'newer' types of harm such as romance fraud and online scams. We will be using practice examples evidencing the application of ASP legislation and procedures in situations where financial harm has occurred. The event will conclude by looking at the practical knowledge, steps and resources that ASP practitioners/stakeholders can access when working with adults who may be subject to financial harm.

[Keeping Antibiotics Working is Everybody's Business Webinar - 26/02/24 - 2pm-3.30pm MS Teams](#)

Staff working in adult social care are invited to register for the Care Inspectorate's webinar on keeping antibiotics working and what this means in practice. The aims of the webinar are to raise awareness of antimicrobial resistance and antimicrobial stewardship across adult social care, including care home and care at home staff groups and provide an opportunity to explore what antimicrobial resistance and antimicrobial stewardship means in practice through a question and answer session.

[Child Protection Lead Online Training - 05/03/25 - 10am-3pm](#)

Children In Scotland are offering training on the role of child protection leads within organisations. This interactive training course will provide learners with the skills and knowledge required to carry out the role and responsibilities of the Child Protection Lead. The themes of the day include a focus on legislation and guidance, referral procedures and supporting and responding to staff & volunteers thereby developing confidence in the role and promoting best practice in safeguarding children and young people. Please note that there is a cost to attend this training.

[Tackling Sexual Abuse Scotland Conference - 18/03/25 - 9.15am-1.30pm - Online](#)

Holyrood Insight is hosting an online conference on Tackling Child Sexual Abuse in Scotland on 18 March, from 09:15am – 1:30pm, with speakers including CELCIS's June Welsh and CPC Scotland's Tam Baillie. Please note that there is a cost to attend this event.

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[Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance \(SIAA\) Advocacy Event: Social Finance & Henry Smith Report - 18/03/25 - 2pm-4pm - MS Teams](#)

SIAA are delighted to invite you to this webinar. It is an opportunity for stakeholders in Scotland to gain an understanding of the value and impact of independent advocacy. The event will focus on the upcoming report titled "Independent advocacy for independent lives", by Social Finance and the Henry Smith Charity, due to be published in February 2025. The report draws on two and a half years of evidence supporting people with learning disabilities and autistic people through independent advocacy and sets out the case for growing inclusive support services for these groups and people.

[NHS Education for Scotland Annual Conference 2025 - Learning for Change: Tackling Health Inequity through Education and Workplace Learning - 24-25th April 2025 - EventsAIR](#)

NES is delighted to confirm that it will once again be hosting the conference online over two days in April 2025. This conference is for colleagues from all professional disciplines across health and social care with an interest in education and training, workforce development and digital solutions. There will be a number of plenary and parallel sessions run by all professional groups and an opportunity for joint sessions highlighting interprofessional learning.

Hate Crime Awareness Online Training

This multi-agency session is aimed at staff with a particular interest and/or who work with people within the protected characteristic groups. This opportunity forms part of a multi-agency approach to tackle hate crime in the city and within the context of wider Public Protection aims to support staff increase awareness of the subject. This course is delivered by Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership learning and development section, Health Improvement and Police Scotland.

By the end of the session you will be able to:

- define hate crime
- name the current forms of prejudice covered under Scottish Legislation
- locate and complete the online Hate Crime Form

Course dates – click on a date below to book

[Wednesday, 23 April 2025 2pm to 4pm](#)

[Tuesday, 5 August 2025 10am to 12noon](#)

[Tuesday, 7 October 2025 2pm to 4pm](#)

Adult Support and Protection Multi Agency Training Awareness Webinar

A multi-agency webinar delivered by Learning and Development, Glasgow HSCP (Health and Social Care Partnership) to support practitioners to gain a basic understanding of Adult Support and Protection (ASP) legislation. It may be used as a basic awareness or if you already have some knowledge of ASP and wish to refresh your skills. This is a multi-agency awareness session and will be webinar-based with a maximum of 60 participants. There will not be a waiting list so if you are unsuccessful you will require to reserve an alternative date. Participants will:

- develop their understanding of what we mean by an adult at risk within the context of the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007
- define who may be an adult at risk of harm
- recognise forms of harm adults may experience
- know how to report their concerns

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- explain their responsibility in relation to Adult Support and Protection.

Due to the high demand for the training, we recommend that you book 1 place but having up to 8 additional staff members join in your room and attend this training session.

Dates are as follows:

[20th February 2025 - 10am - 12.30pm \(MS Teams\)](#)

[18th March 2025 - 10am - 12.30pm \(MS Teams\)](#)

[15th April 2025 - 10am-12.30pm - MS Teams](#)

[20th May 2025 - 10am-12.30pm - MS Teams](#)

[16th June 2025 - 10am-12.30pm - MS Teams](#)

Child Protection Awareness Multi-Agency Online Training

This multi-agency training will support practitioners to gain a basic understanding of Child Protection, even where your job is such that you have no direct responsibility for providing a service to them. It may be used as a basic awareness or if you already have some knowledge of Child Protection and wish to refresh your skills.

Participants will:

- Understand types of harm and the potential impact on a child
- Understand your role and responsibility in recognising and responding to the risk of harm
- Understand the process and importance of information sharing
- Understand the processes professionals take to assess and support any child at risk of harm.

Dates are as follows:

[12th February 2025](#)

[12th March 2025](#)

[9th April 2025](#)

[6th May 2025](#)

[4th June 2025](#)

Gender Based Violence

[Increased Risk of Domestic Abuse for Those Exposed to Childhood Maltreatment](#)

A new study has been published by University College London (UCL) which found a correlation between exposure to childhood maltreatment and risk of domestic violence in later life.

[In a Mother's Mind: Birth Mothers' Experiences of Domestic Abuse](#)

A podcast from Pause and Listen that explores the complexities for birth mothers of protecting their children whilst also seeking support when being subject to domestic abuse.

Health and Social Care

[National Care Service Update](#)

The Scottish Government's Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport, Maree Todd, has announced that the Scottish Government will not proceed with Part

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One of the National Care Service (NCS) Bill, effectively scrapping the planned structural reform of social care in Scotland, and instead will create a new non-statutory advisory board of people with lived experience of accessing care, social care workers, care providers, trade unions, the NHS and local authorities – it has published a factsheet outlining its intentions in progressing elements of the NCS plans.

[Digital Toolkit to Help People Living with Dissociative Seizures Launched](#)

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde has developed a digital tool to help patients and their families manage a condition that was once so difficult to spot it was dismissed as a figment of a patient's imagination.

[Public Expenditure in the Last Year of Life](#)

Marie Curie commissioned this research to estimate the range of public expenditure that supports the care of people in their last year of life. This includes health care in community and acute settings; hospice care; social care for people in their homes and in institutions; and social security benefits. There is also a [briefing paper](#).

[Innovating for Independence: A win-win for health and social care](#)

This policy briefing from Reform calls for quick action to scale up technology within social care. It points out that too much of the technology in social care is not being scaled and is stuck in small scale pilots that are not having the system-wide impact they could achieve.

[Economic and Social Value of the UK Adult Social Care Sector: Scotland](#)

This report from Skills for Care & Development presents an analysis of the adult social care sector's economic and social value in Scotland using data from 2022/23. The report is used to inform the economic case for investment in the social care sector and its workforce in Scotland. It is also used to inform policy-making and national spending review decisions on investment. There is also a [summary report](#) and [infographic](#).

Housing and Homelessness

[Number of Children Living in Temporary Accommodation Surpasses 10,000](#)

More than 10,000 children are living in temporary accommodation across Scotland after an increase of 6% over a period of 12 months, new figures have revealed.

[Temporary Restriction on Rent Increases to be Withdrawn at the End of March 2025](#)

Temporary restrictions on rent increases in the private rented sector will be withdrawn at the end of March 2025, the Scottish Government has confirmed.

[Learning from Severe Maladministration: Taking the key lessons from our severe maladministration decisions](#)

A report by the Housing Ombudsman that focuses on adaptations and landlords' responses to mental and physical health needs.

[Homelessness Statistics April to September 2024](#)

An Accredited Official Statistics Publication for Scotland updating homelessness statistics from April to September 2024.

[Hidden in Plain Sight: Understanding youth homelessness in the UK](#)

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This report from Centrepont provides quantitative and qualitative data insights into youth homelessness in the UK in 2023-24. An intersectional lens is applied in this year's report, with chapters focusing on gender and nationality exploring how youth homelessness is experienced by different groups of young people. There is also a [summary report](#).

Mental Health & Trauma

[Mental Capacity Report - February 2025](#)

39 Essex Chambers' monthly reports on aspects of mental capacity law in the UK.

[Children's Mental Health Task and Finish Group: Key findings and recommendations](#)

The Local Government Association Children and Young People Board established a cross-party working group to consider improving support for children's mental health and wellbeing. The group developed a number of recommendations for both central and local government, setting out what more can be done to support children and young people's mental health.

[Future Minds: Why investing in children's mental health will unlock economic growth](#)

A report from the Centre for Mental Health which outlines how investment in children's mental health will unlock future economic growth.

[Multi-Agency Partnership Approach to Distress: Framework for collaboration](#)

This framework from the Scottish Government aims to promote a multi-agency collaborative approach to improving local distress pathways, with the person-centred, trauma-informed and no wrong door principles at the heart of the improvement.

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. [Sign up to the Trading Standards Scotland Scam Share e-bulletin](#).

Practice, Organisation & Workforce Matters

[Allegations of Abuse Made Against Staff at Skye House Psychiatric Unit in Greater Glasgow and Clyde](#)

Former patients at Scotland's biggest children's psychiatric hospital have spoken out about a culture of cruelty among nursing staff.

[State of Health Visiting, UK Survey Report - From Disparity to Opportunity: The case for rebuilding health visiting](#)

A report which details findings from The Institute of Health Visiting's annual survey of health visitors working with families with babies and young children across the UK.

[A Guide for Employers of 16 and 17 Years Olds in Social Care](#)The Care Inspectorate has published a guide for social care providers on employing 16 and 17-year-olds to provide practical support and help when recruiting young people. This guide is a

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partnership between the SSSC, Care Inspectorate, Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Care and Coalition of Care and Support Providers in Scotland (CCPS).

[East Lothian and Midlothian Public Protection Committee Learning Review Family B](#)

A Learning Review has been published by East Lothian and Midlothian Public Protection Committee where the issue related to neglect within a family. This highlighted important learning about identifying and responding to neglect, thresholds for support, disguised compliance and professional curiosity, and the use of chronologies.

[Renfrewshire Child Protection Committee Learning Review - Baby M](#)

A learning review into the circumstances leading up to the removal of a newborn baby from his mother. A Child Protection Order was granted due to increasing concerns about Ms A's mental health and her ability to safely care for her child.

Refugees, Asylum, Trafficking and Immigration

[Migrant Workers in UK to Fill Care Roles Charged Illegal Fees](#)

An article from the Guardian which highlights that migrant workers who come to the UK to bolster the country's care system are having to share beds, sleep rough, and are in some cases being charged more than £20,000 in illegal fees, according to research.

Substance Use & Addiction

[Alcohol Specific Deaths in the UK: Registered in 2023](#)

Annual statistical report on deaths caused by diseases known to be a direct consequence of alcohol, by age, sex, and region.