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Public Protection Bulletin



22nd July 2022

Dear colleague,

Nearly all public health protection measures have been removed but COVID-19 remains a risk, especially for vulnerable people. 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. We review this on a regular basis to determine when we will be able to meet in person again.

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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GLASGOW HELPS

The new [Glasgow Helps](#) support service, developed by Glasgow City Council and GCVS, grew from helpline support provided during the pandemic. It aims to connect Glasgow's citizens with the *right assistance, in the right place, at the right time*. We recognise that often it is difficult and confusing to understand the range of supports available in the city and we seek to navigate these alongside people.

You can contact Glasgow Helps by telephone on 0141 276 1185. They have translation services for people who have limited English and can call people back if they can't afford the phone call.

Glasgow Helps has produced a leaflet that can be given to families: [Glasgow Helps Flyer](#)

COVID – 19

[Care Leavers' Transitions to Adulthood in the Context of COVID-19](#)

A study that explored how COVID-19 impacted on care leavers' lives and their pathways out of care; examining where young people went, what services and support they received, and how young people got on.

[Reaching Inland](#)

A series of personal accounts of, and a reflection on, the dramatic impact of COVID-19 and the resulting lockdowns on people's mental health.

[Exploring the effects of COVID-19 restrictions on wellbeing across different styles of lockdown](#)

Research led by the University of the West of Scotland has shown Covid-19 pandemic restrictions contributed to poorer health behaviours.

Children, Young People & Education

[NHS Awkward Moments Campaign](#)

In response to academic research completed in 2019, the campaign aims to help Scottish people (aged 16-19) to recognise what good consensual intimate experiences can look like. The objective of the work is to provide support and increase confidence to start the important conversations around positive and mutual consent.

Resources include:

- Five short high-quality films addressing a variety of themes and situations.
- Deeper dive video clips from youth group discussion.
- Paid digital media campaign targeting all areas of Scotland using TikTok, YouTube, Snapchat and Instagram. Call to action to visit microsite for more information and links to further online/in-person support.
- Content for informal youth setting educators via [youth session plan](#).

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[Children Aged 12 to 15 Years Involved in Offending and Referred to the Children's Reporter and Procurator Fiscal in Scotland](#)

Research carried out to provide evidence on offending by children aged 12 to 15 years to inform the considerations of the Scottish Government's Age of Criminal Responsibility Advisory Group.

[Michael Sheen: I broke down hearing kids' care stories](#)

How would you feel if your child, or one you knew, was taken into care and ended up living in a B&B, a hostel, or even slept rough?

[Risk of Online Sexual Abuse \(ROSA\) Project](#)

Stop it Now! Scotland have launched their Risk of Online Sexual Abuse Project. This is part of their work 'Faithfull Papers' to give insight on how to prevent child sexual abuse and sharing their research and knowledge to best protect children.

[UK Social Work Practice in Safeguarding Disabled Children and Young People](#)

This systematic review aims to compile qualitative evidence to better comprehend the complexity of safeguarding concerns and improve understanding of how and why key welfare concerns disproportionately affect disabled children.

[Growing Up in Scotland conference materials now available online](#)

This conference included a presentation of findings from the latest Scottish Government report on Life at Age 14, and presentations from research projects which have used the study data, sharing important perspectives on the issues that young people and their families in Scotland face today.

[Complex needs cuts are discriminatory, say parents](#)

Families of young people with complex disabilities are calling for equal treatment amid complaints that councils across Scotland are cutting summer activities for their children.

[Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan: Fourth Year Progress Report 2021 to 2022](#)

The fourth annual progress report for Scottish Government's *'Every child, every chance: tackling child poverty delivery plan 2018-2022'*.

[Childhood Trauma, the Brain and the Social World](#)

A short guide about the importance of social relationships for children's mental health.

[Ground-breaking suicide prevention campaign for young people launches](#)

Scotland's social movement for change on suicide has launched the country's first ever suicide prevention campaign directly aimed at young people aged 16-20.

[Young Women Rise Report](#)

In May 2021, YWCA Scotland – the Young Women's Movement were commissioned by Scottish Women's Aid (SWA) to lead work to understand the views of young women in Scotland around what a healthy relationship looks like, what domestic abuse is and what improvements can be made.

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[Engaging with Men and Fathers Virtual Issue](#)

Free time limited access to this special virtual edition, compiled to support the Association of Child Protection Professionals conference “Challenges and Opportunities in the Engagement and Assessment of Fathers in Child Safeguarding” on 7th July 2022.

Disability, Autism, ADHD & Learning Difficulties

[RCP says healthcare for people with a learning disability is suboptimal](#)

The Royal College of Physicians (RCP) has launched a new acute care toolkit to help address the suboptimal care provision for people who have a learning disability.

[New short film highlights the challenges people with a learning disability face when accessing primary care](#)

The Sunnybank Trust and Surrey Heartlands ICS Research Team have produced a new video highlighting the challenges people with learning disabilities face when accessing primary care.

The [film](#) aims to empower healthcare professionals to take positive action and features the voices and real-life experiences of those with a learning disability.

[Check if your disability benefit qualifies for new £150 cost of living payment due in September](#)

People on nine different disability benefits may be eligible for one-off payment from DWP.

Mental Health

[Set Up to Fail](#)

A report exploring women’s experiences of psychiatric and psychological expert witness assessments during care proceedings.

[The Bright Side of Social Network Sites](#)

A paper that introduces the concept of online social capital and shows how it could be applied to the area of mental health.

[TALKBACK: supporter magazine from the Mental Health Foundation](#)

A summer update from the Mental Health Foundation, including the Voice and Visibility project, funded by Glasgow City Council. Refugee and asylum-seeking communities are at the heart of this project.

Adults, Older People & Dementia

[Managing Abusive Experiences](#)

A study that sought to investigate how older adults describe how they manage abusive experiences.

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[Supervising Welfare Guardians and Powers of Attorney](#)

Good practice guidance for local authorities supervising private welfare guardians and welfare powers of attorney in Scotland.

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

Iriss has developed a course in partnership with the National Adult Protection Coordinator for Scotland supporting professionals to put the voice of adults and carers at the centre of their experience in Adult Support and Protection.

Carers

[Social work practice with carers](#)

The learning resources to support social work with carers are available on an open access website and are intended for frontline practitioners and managers who are working with carers. They include five case studies to give an insight into different types of caring responsibilities, some of the common challenges experienced by carers and guidance for working with them effectively.

[Stress and well-being of unpaid carers supporting claimants through disability benefit assessments](#)

A total of 129 carers from the UK were surveyed between July and September 2017, using a cross-sectional design. Carers, who provided unpaid support to sick or disabled friends, family or neighbours in a non-professional capacity, reported here as unpaid carers, were asked to complete a web-based questionnaire. Analyses revealed that the number of times that claimants were exposed to benefit assessments significantly and negatively predicted unpaid carers' well-being and was positively related to their stress levels.

Housing & Homelessness

[Housing Interventions for Women Experiencing Intimate Partner Violence](#)

A systematic review of the effects of housing interventions on the physical, psychosocial, and economic wellbeing of women experiencing intimate partner violence.

[The Autistic Experience of Homelessness](#)

An article that considers how autistic people experienced rough sleeping and sofa surfing before attempting to access hostels.

[New project launched to help people detained in HMP Greenock and Low Moss assess their housing options](#)

Legal Services Agency has launched a new project which will provide support to people detained in HMP Greenock and Low Moss by offering tailored legal advice and representation, to empower individuals to understand their housing options and navigate legal processes.

Substance Use & Addictions

[RADAR system to spot drug death risks](#)

Public Health Scotland (PHS) has launched an early warning system using data from a mix of sources to identify trends to try to reduce drug-related harm in Scotland. The Rapid Action Drug Alerts and Response (RADAR) programme was launched at the NHS Scotland Conference alongside training for delegates on how to administer overdose reversing drug naloxone.

[Characteristics of Non-Fatal Overdoses and Associated Risk Factors in Patients Attending a Specialist Community-Based Substance Misuse Service](#)

A study that explored the risk factors and characteristics of non-fatal overdoses among people attending a specialist community-based substance misuse service.

[Naloxone Peer Champion](#)

HMP Edinburgh, HMP Barlinnie and HMP Low Moss now run the Naloxone Peer Champion programme, where inmates are taught how to use the lifesaving drug to reverse opioid overdoses.

[BBC IPlayer: Gambling: A Game of Life and Death](#)

Online gambling has exploded in recent years, and with it, concerns about addiction, particularly among young men. Telling the stories of two young men harmed by their gambling addiction, Gambling: A Game of Life and Death traces how they became hooked, the attempts they made to overcome their addiction and the reasons recovery seemed so impossible.

Equality & Poverty

[Exploring Socioeconomic Inequities in Access to Palliative and End-of-Life Care in the UK](#)

An exploration of the evidence relating to socioeconomic position and access to palliative and end-of-life care is closely examined in the UK, looking both at receipt of care and the factors influencing it.

Gender Based Violence

[Effectiveness of Existing Intervention Programmes to Reduce Violent Re-Offending in Domestic Abuse Perpetrators](#)

The findings from a rapid review of the literature.

Refugees, Asylum, Trafficking and Immigration

[Hope to Despair](#)

A paper that explores children and young people's lived experiences of trafficking abuse.

[Sir Mo Farah reveals he was trafficked to the UK as a child](#)

Sir Mo Farah was brought to the UK illegally as a child and forced to work as a domestic servant, he has revealed.

Crime, Justice & Prisons

[Criminal Proceedings in Scotland, 2020-21](#)

Annual statistical bulletin from Scottish Government. The total number of people proceeded against in Scottish courts fell by 46% to 46,497 in the year to 2020-21, according to National Statistics published by Scotland's Chief Statistician today. The number of people convicted fell at a similar rate, down 44% to 42,532.

[Help for prisoners' health](#)

Prisons can be violent, isolating and frightening, which can often lead to many imprisoned developing physical and mental health conditions. Despite this, people in prison can find it more difficult to access healthcare professionals and receive high quality treatment, even when in extreme need of help.

[Revised National Strategy for Community Justice published](#)

The revised Strategy sets the national direction for community justice by building on progress made to date. It is designed to provide a clear roadmap for future improvement work, by highlighting key areas for partners to focus on.

[Scottish Parliament's Criminal Justice Committee seek views on the Bail and Release from Custody \(Scotland\) Bill](#)

[The Bill and its accompanying documents](#) set out how the Government proposes to make changes to the law in two main areas:

- decisions about granting bail to people accused of a crime, and
- arrangements for the release of some prisoners and the support that is provided to those who leave prison.

The responses will assist the Committee in reporting to the Parliament on whether the Bill should be passed into law, and what amendments if any, should be made to it.

The deadline for submitting views is **Thursday 8 September 2022**.

Social Care & Practice

[What is Independent Advocacy?](#)

An Easy Read version of the Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance's Independent Advocacy Principles, Standards and Code of Best Practice.

[Residential Child Care Report: Workforce, Services, Providers and Looked After Children 2010-2020](#)

An analysis of data on the residential childcare workforce and the number of looked after children in Scotland. Shows the residential childcare workforce has increased by 16% since 2010 while the number of children and young people in some form of residential care has decreased by 3% during that time.

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[Parents' Views on Improving Relationships with Their Social Workers](#)

An examination of the quality of the parent/social worker relationship through the perceptions of 270 families who were in contact with children's social care in England.

[BeMe care experiences simulation app](#)

SSSC has partnered with Glasgow School of Art to create an app that uses 360° video and surround sound to simulate the experience of someone receiving care. The BeMe app is available for Apple and Android smartphones and can be used with a headset for an immersive experience.

Online & Financial Harm

[Ghost Brokers](#)

A "Ghost Broker" is a term used to describe a fraudster who pretends to be a genuine Insurance Broker in order to sell fraudulent car insurance. Ghost broking scams have risen in recent years and typically take place on social media, but they can also be facilitated through word of mouth or local businesses.

[Concerns Over Online Safety Bill Delay](#)

Critics have described government plans to delay the online safety bill until the autumn as a "devastating blow" for child protection.

Events

[New summer webinar series](#)

Join What Works for Children's Social Care for their new webinar series as we unpack the findings from four of the key reports we contributed to the Independent Review of Children's Social Care.

Every Monday lunchtime from 11 July they'll be sharing the highlights of their research, hearing from those involved and getting local authorities' and sector reflections about next steps.

[25 July - Understanding Formal Kinship Care](#)

[1 August - Secure Children's Homes](#)

[Dementia Training Courses: July-September](#)

Age Scotland have now released dates for their training courses running between now and the end of September. You can view the complete calendar of courses and sign up via their [website](#).

[National Organisation for the Treatment of Abuse Scotland Annual Conference 22/08/22 – 23/08/22, Stirling Court Hotel](#)

Chair of NOTA Scotland, Lucy Coleman will host the two-day annual conference. It will bring together keynote addresses and give delegates the opportunity to take part in a series of in-depth workshops focusing on adult and young person's support and services.

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