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Public Protection Bulletin

24th December 2021

Dear colleague,

When it was suggested I prepare a “festive” themed foreword for this edition of our bulletin, I felt a bit conflicted. I love this time of year but it is difficult to fully embrace the festive holiday spirit when we know that concerns, consequences and actions in response to the new Covid variant are being ramped up.

We also know that as society and public venues have continued to open up, our most vulnerable citizens have felt even more at risk and isolated. It is therefore incumbent on us all to redouble our awareness of contamination risks and where appropriate, to wear face masks, observe social distancing and take other precautionary measures.

I am well aware that our member organisations and front-line workers, from all sectors, will be doing their level best to make sure our most vulnerable citizens have a safe and happy time over the holiday period. In return, it is our duty as public protection leaders to make sure our front-line staff and volunteers are supported and cared for. It is only through protecting their wellbeing that continuity of care and support services can be ensured.

On behalf of our Adult Support and Protection and Child Protection Committees I would like, from the bottom of my heart, to say a huge thank you to all the staff and volunteers who have worked throughout the year with such unselfish dedication and skill to support our vulnerable communities. I appreciate that many of you will be working through the holiday period and I sincerely hope that you will be able to take much deserved respite time to celebrate with family and friends.

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 well in to 2022.

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.

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I sincerely hope you are able to find love and joy over the festive period and I wish you a happy and fulfilling 2022.

Take care and please stay healthy.

Best wishes,

Colin

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

[Third Sector Festive Directory 2021](#)

Thanks to the efforts of staff and volunteers, over 80 third sector organisations across the city are providing services around the festive period. There are a wide range of activities including Santa walkabouts, gifts and toys for local children, warm hats and gloves for adults, food parcels and helplines. While most services are closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day, there are some that will open between Christmas and New Year.

GCVS have compiled a spreadsheet of what's on, though please note that this may change as a result of Covid restrictions. Always check the charity's social media page or contact them for up-to-date information.

COVID – 19

[Growing up in the Covid-19 pandemic: An evidence review of the impact of pandemic life on physical development in the early years](#)

This report is a brief review of emerging international and UK evidence on seven key factors associated with children's early physical health and development, and the extent to which the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic (such as lockdowns and social distancing) have impacted on these factors and affected children's early physical development, including children from low-income and UK ethnic minority families.

[Coronavirus: impact on housing](#)

Public Health Wales has published an assessment of the health and wellbeing impact of coronavirus on housing in Wales. Findings include: the economic impacts of the pandemic have had a negative effect on those on a low income, women and young people; some women and children have been at greater risk of harm from violence and abuse through spending more time at home; and there is a lack of refuges where those at risk can access support.

[The ALLIANCE publishes a second Humans of Scotland book](#)

A second collection of stories from across Scotland has been published by the ALLIANCE highlighting the realities faced by disabled people, people living with long term conditions

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and unpaid carers during the pandemic. Also capturing stories from staff working in the NHS in Scotland and in the country's health and social care third sector, the new book creates a permanent record of life during COVID-19.

[COVID-19 and Adult Safeguarding - Recording and Slides](#)

Findings from Research webinar on the 19th November to hear more about the impact that the pandemic. Keele University Law School were pleased to welcome over 200 practitioners and academics from adult safeguarding, social care, health to the [COVID-19 and Adult Safeguarding](#).

[Demographics of impact of COVID-19 on young people](#)

Young Scot (in partnership with the Scottish Government, Scottish Youth Parliament, and YouthLink Scotland) have published an expanded version of #LockdownLowdown: Impact of COVID-19 on young people as lockdown eases report. The report gives deeper insight into how young people feel about education, youth work, employment and health as pandemic restrictions ease.

[Innovation, Collaboration and Adaption: The UK Response to Domestic Abuse under Covid-19](#)

The UK DAHLIA-19 team has published the above report which outlines the key findings of a UK mapping study carried out between November 2020 and November 2021 on the policy and practice response to domestic abuse for all family members under Covid-19. Undertaken across the four nations of the UK, the study made use of expert interviews, stakeholder meetings, a call for evidence, and a survey of regional Domestic Abuse co-ordinators. The study findings highlight the regional variance in service provision and innovation and the speed with which services and government have responded to some of the demands created by the pandemic.

Children, Young People & Education

[Glasgow CPC Interagency Guidance for working with young people involved in sexual behaviour](#)

This protocol has been developed to assist staff to address the needs of, and minimise the risk to, young people who are sexually active and under the age of sixteen, and those who are subject to a statutory measure of supervision.

[Signs & Indicators](#)

A template that aims to help professionals identify and record signs of sexual abuse.

[MBRRACE-UK Saving Lives, Improving Mothers' Care report for 2021](#)

The United Kingdom's Confidential Enquiry into Maternal Deaths represents a gold standard around the world for investigations and improvements in maternity care. Through its rigorous reviews, the Enquiry recognises the importance of learning from every woman's death, during and after pregnancy, not only for staff and health services, but also the family

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and friends she leaves behind. This year the report examines in detail the care of 495 women who died during, or up to one year after, pregnancy between 2017 and 2019 in the UK.

[Children's commissioner wants sex survey paused](#)

Bruce Adamson expressed concern over the Health and Wellbeing Census, which asks pupils about their experience of drug use, alcohol consumption and sex. Mr Adamson said the survey must protect children's right to privacy and give informed consent. He expressed concern that the anonymous survey could actually allow children to be identified.

[Age of Criminal Responsibility \(Scotland\) Act 2019 - Operational guidance](#)

This Guidance contains information to support Police Scotland and Local Authorities in the application of their operational duties, under the Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019 (the Act).

[Attainment gap in primary schools wider since Covid](#)

The attainment gap between primary school pupils from the most and least deprived areas of Scotland appears to have widened during the Covid pandemic. [New figures](#) showed that literacy and numeracy levels in primary schools - which had been improving before Covid - have dropped overall. But pupils from the poorest areas of the country have fallen further behind.

Mental Health

[New consultation – investigating deaths during compulsory care and treatment under mental health laws in Scotland](#)

The Mental Welfare Commission has begun a public consultation to seek views on proposals for a new system of investigating the deaths of people who, at the time of their death, were subject to compulsory treatment under mental health legislation in Scotland. The consultation will run from 8 December 2021 to 15 February 2022.

Disability

[Adults With Incapacity Act Monitoring Report 2020-21](#)

Annual monitoring report on the use of welfare guardianship orders under the Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000 for adults with a mental illness, learning disability, dementia and related conditions.

[NES questionnaire for people supporting adults with a learning disability](#)

NHS Education for Scotland have published their first [learning disability team newsletter](#). Within it you will find a link to a questionnaire for those that support adults with learning disabilities. Your answers to the questionnaire will support NES in understanding the learning and training needs of those supporting adults with a learning disability. The questionnaire will close on 21st December 2021.

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[Disability bill passes first parliamentary hurdle](#)

A proposed law creating new rights for young people with disabilities has got the backing of enough parliamentarians for it to be taken forward in the Scottish parliament.

Older People & Dementia

[Care Workers' Compendium of Digital Resources](#)

The TEC (Technology Enabled Care) Digital Social Care Programme has released the first Care Workers' Compendium of Digital Resources 2021/22 edition.

This practical resource has been developed with the contributions care homes made during the Digital Care Homes Network sessions earlier this year and supplemented with case studies of digital use in care homes that have been shared with the TEC programme.

It gives an overview of what digital opportunities can look like for care services and how staff can be supported to improve the use of digital devices in care homes.

[Age Scotland dementia training calendar](#)

Age Scotland have published dates for their Jan – March programme. For more details, dates and to book your place, please go to their [training calendar](#). All training is free. And for more details about our their self-study course format please contact the training team at dementiatraining@agescotland.org.uk.

Housing & Homelessness

[ADP & Homeless Programme: Reducing Harm, Improving Care](#)

Healthcare Improvement Scotland has been commissioned by Scottish Government to deliver an improvement programme which engages specialist alcohol, drug and statutory homeless services along with the people who use them to improve access, reduce harm and achieve better outcomes.

[Homeless Action Scotland launches working homeless survey](#)

[Survey](#) launched to help ascertain whether there is currently a problem for people who are in paid employment accessing homeless accommodation and services.

Substance Use & Addictions

[Drug-Related Hospital Statistics: Scotland 2020 to 2021](#)

Annual statistical report on hospital activity relating to illicit drug use in Scotland.

[Alcohol-specific deaths in the UK: registered in 2020](#)

Figures from the National Office of Statistics show Scotland had the highest number of deaths from alcohol in the UK last year

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[Tailored Outreach PrEP Service for People Who Inject Drugs Featured in National HIV Journal](#)

A programme to distribute and prescribe a revolutionary medicine to reduce HIV transmissions in Glasgow for people who inject drugs has been featured as an example of good practice in integrated working in a national HIV Journal, HIV Medicine.

[Covid in Scotland: More ambulance calls to lockdown home drinking](#)

Drink-related ambulance callouts initially fell during lockdown but then rose again as home drinking became a problem, a study has found.

Equality & Poverty

[Price rises: The nine-year-old worried about paying the bills](#)

Prices are rising at their highest rate for almost 10 years, leaving many more people on low incomes struggling to make ends meet.

Gender Based Violence

[Student stalked at university calls for change](#)

A woman who was stalked and threatened with kidnap by a fellow student has told the BBC her university's failure to act swiftly left her terrified.

[Mental Health and Domestic Abuse](#)

A literature review that presents an overview of available evidence around domestic abuse, mental health and trauma in the United Kingdom.

Refugees, Asylum and Immigration

[Forced migration and sexual and gender-based violence](#)

The Sexual and Gender Based Violence against Refugees from Displacement to Arrival (SEREDA) project, run by the Institute for Research into Superdiversity at the University of Birmingham, has published a research report on the experiences of forced migrant women and girls who have been victims of sexual violence.

[Welcoming and Supporting Refugee Children](#)

Guidance that aims to support schools to welcome and settle refugee children to help them feel safe and emotionally contained, make progress and begin to thrive.

Crime, Justice & Prisons

[Not proven consultation opens](#)

The consultation on Scotland's unique three verdict system will gather opinions from the public, as well as the legal sector, third sector, and those with direct experience of the justice system - fulfilling a key Programme for Government commitment. The consultation also considers jury size, the majority required for conviction and the requirement for corroboration. [The consultation](#) will run until 11 March, 2022.

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Online & Financial Harm

[IWF analysts finding fifteen times more child abuse content online than they were ten years ago](#)

Internet Watch Foundation analysts are finding more than fifteen times as much child sexual abuse material on the internet as they were ten years ago, as experts battling a “tidal-wave of criminal material” urge law-makers to make protecting children a priority.

[Online Safety Bill: New offences and tighter rules](#)

New criminal offences and major changes have been proposed in the UK's landmark Online Safety Bill, which seeks to regulate social media and tech giants. A new parliamentary report calls for adding scams and offences, like sending unwanted sexual images and promoting violence against women and girls.

Social Care & Practice

[Human Rights Principles for Digital Health and Social Care](#)

The ALLIANCE, Scottish Care and VOX have published a report outlining 5 principles to embed human rights in digital services, and showcasing practice-examples from a range of health and social care services.

Events

[Early and Effective Intervention \(EEI\) - Online Information Sessions 2022](#)

Glasgow City Council's, Neighbourhood, Regeneration and Sustainability Service have responsibility for the management of Early and Effective Intervention within Glasgow. Early and Effective Intervention (EEI) is a national framework for working with children and young people aged 8 - 17 years who have been involved in offending behaviour.

Its purpose is to divert these young people away from statutory measures, where appropriate, and respond to the charge in a timely manner. This means that children and young people who have committed offences (with the exception of those who have committed offences of a serious nature) will be diverted from referral to the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) and referred to the EEI process.

On the surface EEI may seem like a Youth Justice service and is part of the wider Youth Justice Strategy Both Nationally and locally, however when drilled down there is a much wider role for all agencies within Third Sector, Education, Police Scotland and the Health and Social Care Partnership.

Information sessions will be taking place via Microsoft Teams. Although the below events are arranged in sectors, if you have a city-wide remit or not free on the session most relevant to you, please feel free to attend any date that you have free.

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| EEl Information Session South Sector | Monday 24 January 2022 | 10.30am until 12 noon |
| EEl Information Session North East Sector | Tuesday 25 January 2022 | 10.30am until 12 noon |
| EEl Information Session North West Sector | Wednesday 26 January 2022 | 10.30am until 12 noon |

To register, simply e-mail commsafetyeei@glasgow.gov.uk confirming your name, organisation, and preferred session. There are no restrictions on how many people can attend from one organisation.

[‘A Room with a View: Engaging with the Outdoors from Indoors’ - Tuesday 18 January 2022](#)

Trellis, an organisation which promotes gardening for wellbeing, will join the Care Inspectorate for A Room with a View: Engaging with the Outdoors from Indoors on Tuesday 18 January 2022 from 10:15 to 11:30.

This session will enable you to support wellbeing for older people via indoor gardening. It will include easy to implement suggestions, practical steps and ideas to make links with outdoor space and nature during winter. You don't need any previous gardening knowledge or skills to take part. The session is open to anyone with an interest in the topic.

[Support Worker Virtual Learning Week; 28 February - 4 March 2022](#)

Deadline for registering: Wednesday 19 January 2022

NHS Education for Scotland will be hosting drop in bite sized sessions for all Support Workers working in health and social care sectors. This event will be delivered via MS Teams. Please note that by registering this does not guarantee you a place. You will receive notification if you have been successful in securing a place by 26 January 2022.

[Recognising and Responding to Hate Crime: 10am – 12pm, Wednesday 30th March 2022 & Tuesday 17th May 2022, MS Teams](#)

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. Glasgow City Social Work Services and NMSGC have committed to offering hate crime awareness training to staff and to social care providers across the city.

Targeted towards Social Care and Health staff within Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership with a particular interest and/or who work with people within the protected characteristic group/s are invited to apply for a place on the Hate Crime Awareness Training. The course is further open to membership of the Adult Protection Committee & Child Protection Committee.

Recognising and Responding to Hate Crime Awareness will provide information and guidance on hate Crime and Third Party reporting of crime/incidents in general. The Glasgow Hate Crime Working Group (GHCWG), which is a multi-agency group that aims to co-ordinate a strategic approach to hate crime across Glasgow's community partners has co-ordinated and endorse these sessions.

Please note your interest in attending to bst@no-smtp.glasgow.gov.uk.

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