

OFFICIAL



Public Protection Bulletin

28th October 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

OFFICIAL

COVID – 19

[Class of COVID Report 2022](#)

This research asked young people how confident, hopeful and in control they felt of their lives and careers since the pandemic. It comes as The Prince's Trust launches its '[Class of Covid](#)' campaign to raise awareness of a generation of young people who are still feeling the repercussions of the pandemic on their education, employment and wellbeing, and who now face a cost of living crisis.

[Exploring the Changes and Challenges of COVID-19 in Adult Safeguarding Practice](#)

Research exploring the challenges and opportunities presented by COVID-19 to both frontline and non-frontline professionals working in adult safeguarding.

[Resilience, and Positive Parenting in Parents of Children with Syndromic Autism and Intellectual Disability](#)

A paper that presents evidence of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on family's quality of life and parent-child relationships in parents of children with syndromic autism and intellectual disability.

Children, Young People & Education

[The 'Syndemic' of Poverty and Mental Health in Young People](#)

A higher number of poorer children are being referred for mental health support in England, compared to young people who live in the richest areas, new analysis shows.

[The health impacts of Sure Start](#)

Despite Sure Start's past importance in the early years landscape and its continuing influence over policymaking in this area, surprisingly little is known about how the programme affected families' and children's outcomes. In this briefing note (and the accompanying working paper), The Institute for Fiscal Studies extend the evidence from their 2019 report to show how Sure Start has influenced children's health.

[Child Protection: Introducing the Glasgow Child Interview Team](#)

A new approach to how we interview child victims and witnesses is being developed and rolled out across Scotland, and Glasgow is the fourth Scottish local authority to be involved in piloting the new model. The Glasgow Child Interview Team was set up and will use the new model in cases that are likely to proceed in the High Court; involve sexual abuse, serious physical assault or sexual exploitation; or when children have additional needs or communication needs. The team aims to improve the experience of children who are interviewed.

OFFICIAL

[Review of Neonatal Mortality in Scotland](#)

Healthcare Improvement Scotland has been asked by the Scottish Government to undertake a review of the significant increase in neonatal mortality across Scotland in the year 2021/22. The review will consider the systems, processes and governance for the delivery of neonatal care which are relevant to the review scope.

[The Report of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse](#)

This report is the final statutory report published by the Inquiry. In accordance with the Terms of Reference, it sets out the main findings about the extent to which State and non-State institutions failed in their duty of care to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation and makes recommendations for reform.

[Transitioning from Child to Adult](#)

A systematic review from What Works for Children's Social Care exploring safeguarding practices for young people and young adults with lived experience of child sexual exploitation before or during key life transitions.

['Transfer of power' vital in securing positive outcomes for care experienced young people](#)

Children in Scotland has published an evaluation of the home and belonging initiative aimed at supporting young people in Scotland moving on from care. Key findings from staff and young people involved in the projects include: forming positive relationships impacted young people's ability to engage with services and maintain tenancies; and having community spaces for care experienced young people helped them connect with others with shared experiences.

[Child maltreatment](#)

NSPCC Learning has published an evidence briefing summarising the research around the effectiveness of parent interventions in preventing child maltreatment. The review includes an analysis of studies that focus on intervention on an interpersonal level.

[Let's Talk Scottish Education National Discussion Launched by the Scottish Government & COSLA](#)

Open until 5 December 2022, this is an opportunity for children, young people (aged three to 18) and those who support them to have their voices heard in a debate which will establish a twenty-year vision for Scottish education.

[Cost Crisis Hub for Young People](#)

In response to young people's concerns about the cost crisis, Young Scot have launched a resources hub.

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Disability, Autism, ADHD & Learning Difficulties

[Mother calls for new law on restraint in schools](#)

A mother whose son was physically restrained at a special school when he was 11 is launching plans for a new law in his name.

Mental Health

[Recognition that MHAUs are Providing an Excellent Response to People having a Mental Health Crisis](#)

The Mental Health Assessment Unit (MHAU) at Leverndale Hospital was visited this summer by Kevin Stewart MSP, Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care to hear more about the success of the hospital's MHAU. There's also a [short video](#).

[Evaluation of the Suicide Bereavement Support Service: Year One Summary](#)

A summary of the findings from the evaluation of the first year of a pilot program that aims to provide flexible and personalised support to families in Scotland who have experienced bereavement by suicide.

Adults, Older People & Dementia

[Confident conversations on dementia research](#)

An initiative is being launched to help staff working with people diagnosed with neuroprogressive conditions to have 'confident conversations' to support those affected and their families as they decide whether to take part in research studies.

[Malnutrition Week supports older people](#)

NHS Tayside and Dundee Health and Social Care Partnership have joined forces with older people's charity, Food Train, to help carers spot the early signs of malnutrition and stop people falling ill.

[New care home guidance for people with learning disabilities who have dementia](#)

[Guidance](#) has been published to help care homes in Scotland provide appropriate support for people with learning disabilities who have a diagnosis of dementia. The new guidance has been developed by Healthcare Improvement Scotland and the Care Inspectorate. It is believed that the national guidance is the first of its kind.

Carers

[State of Caring in Scotland 2022: A Cost-of-Living Crisis for Unpaid Carers in Scotland](#)

A report that draws from State of Caring 2022, a UK wide survey carried out by Carers UK and Carers Scotland.

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Housing & Homelessness

[Supporting Vulnerable People During Challenging Transitions: A Systematic Review of Critical Time Intervention](#)

A systematic review of the benefits of a time-limited individual-level intervention designed to reduce the risk of homelessness and other adverse outcomes by providing support to individuals during challenging life course transitions.

[Dispersing homeless people fails to stop antisocial behaviour, finds study](#)

Research by criminologists in 10 towns in England and Wales finds public space orders 'merely recycle homelessness problem'

Substance Use & Addictions

[Drug Prohibition: Does it really make our communities safer?](#)

Podcast discussion from Scottish Community Safety network with Simon McLean of LEAP Scotland discussing drug prohibition. Simon and other retired (and current) police officers like him all over the world are campaigning for drug policy reform and an end to drug prohibition.

Equality & Poverty

[Cost of Living and Community Safety](#)

The Cost of Living Crisis is impacting the whole country, with those who previously felt comfortable beginning to feel it's effects. In Scotland, we're seeing a range of impacts on areas of community safety policy and practice, many posing a real risk to public safety and health.

Gender Based Violence

[Influencers urge men to challenge sexist behaviour](#)

Men are being urged to challenge their friends' poor behaviour towards women in a new media campaign.

[16 Days of Action toolkit](#)

The National Violence Against Women Network have developed a toolkit of resources to add value to local 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaigns across Scotland. This toolkit supports a number of activities which can be progressed locally and nationally to maximise the impact of this year's campaign (25 November – 10 December 2022).

[Trial scheme launched to increase victim confidence in justice system](#)

Prosecutors are "determined" to increase the confidence that victims have in the criminal justice system, Scotland's Lord Advocate said after the launch of a pilot scheme to improve the experience for survivors of domestic abuse. The initiative sets out to transform the service offered to those who have experienced domestic abuse by the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS).

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Refugees, Asylum, Trafficking and Immigration

[Scottish Government Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy Review](#)

The Scottish Government has today launched the next statutory review of the [Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy](#). They invite public feedback. The survey is available for anyone with an interest to complete and will close at midnight on Friday 16 December.

[Useful guide to spot the indicators of human trafficking](#)

Publication of a useful aide memoire form the Scottish Government.

[Children and families with no recourse to public funds: Learning from case reviews](#)

This paper reviews 26 reports into deaths and serious abuse of children in families who were subject to the No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) rule. Analysis illustrates vulnerabilities caused by exclusionary policies, exacerbating social deprivation and isolation experienced by the children and families and making it more difficult for professionals to respond in ways which safeguarded children's welfare.

Crime, Justice & Prisons

[Crown Office urged to improve handling of sexual history at trials](#)

The way sexual history and character evidence is used in Scottish trials needs to improve.

[Inspection of COPFS practice in relation to sections 274 and 275 of the Criminal Procedure \(Scotland\) Act 1995](#)

These provisions regulate the use of evidence relating to the sexual history or character of complainers in sexual offence trials and are designed to protect complainers giving evidence from irrelevant and often distressing questioning.

[The Risk Management Authority report 'The Offending Behaviour of Those Sentenced to the Order for Lifelong Restriction' \(OLR\)](#)

The findings aim to increase their understanding of the people subject to the unique sentence and contribute towards our discussions relating to public protection.

Social Care, Practice & Workforce Matters

[Demand and expenditure for adult social care in Scotland](#)

Scottish Government plans for the National Care Service will involve significant investment in order to make the changes set out in the National Care Service Bill, and then further investment to make improvements to frontline care and to address unmet need.

[Remote Service Delivery During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Questioning the Impact of Technology on Relationship-Based Social Work Practice](#)

The findings from qualitative interviews with 14 frontline social workers practicing during the pandemic in Northern Ireland, exploring the impact of remote delivery and technology on relationship-based practice.

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Online & Financial Harm

[Child sex abuse: Failing to report it should be made illegal - major inquiry](#)

Anyone who works with children and does not report child sexual abuse should be prosecuted, the final report of a huge, seven-year inquiry has recommended. It called the nature and scale of abuse in England and Wales "horrific and deeply disturbing" with children "threatened, beaten and humiliated".

['Money Mules' Campaign Launched](#)

The National Crime Agency has launched a new campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of fraudsters and the practice of 'Money Muling'.

Events

[Fire Safety and the Cost-of-Living Crisis. 27/10/22, 09.30 – 12.30, Online](#)

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service are hosting a free online event around what the cost of living crisis means to our communities and how this may potentially increase fire risk. Partners are invited from across all sectors to come together to collectively consider how we can identify those at highest risk and what we can do to provide advice and support.

[Scottish Child Payment – Social Security Scotland Online Events](#)

The events are designed for stakeholders working with individuals who will be eligible for Social Security Scotland's five family payments including Scottish Child Payment and Best Start Grants. The event will be available the following dates and times:

- 1 November 2022 10:00
- 3 November 2022 14:30
- 8 November 2022 14:30
- 9 November 2022 14:30

[Threads of Connection: Making the most of post-adoption letterbox exchange. 03/11/22, 11.00 – 12.00, Online](#)

When children are adopted, they are connected to two families. Exchanging letters can help build relationships so that children and their families understand their history, their identity, and their story. However, letter exchange is not working well for many families at present.

This project invited mothers whose children have been adopted to help us understand how letter exchange might work better for more families. Threads of Connection focuses on the content of letters and their potential for relationship building between both families in a dynamic and meaningful way.

[Planning for Engagement with Disabled Participants, 09/11/22, 2.00 – 3.00pm, MS Teams](#)

This webinar explores community engagement that is planned with disabled participants in mind first and foremost. We may be used to asking if our engagement participants have access needs – but could we take this further? What potential does 'disability thinking' have

OFFICIAL

to improve all of our engagement and move beyond the barriers both disabled people and community engagement practitioners experience?

[Health is wealth? REAL Challenge annual lecture, 09/11/22, Online](#)

The UK continues to feel the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, both through its impact on the nation's health, as well as the prolonged impact on the UK economy. Yet despite this, there isn't enough attention on boosting population health, the NHS and social care to build resilience to future shocks and support economic recovery.

For the 2022 REAL challenge lecture, Andy Haldane, Chief Executive of the RSA and former Chief Economist at the Bank of England, will explore the relationship between health and wealth. He will draw lessons from the pandemic and argue for a more holistic economic growth strategy where health and wealth are inextricably linked.

[Scottish Institute for Residential Childcare Online, 09 – 10/11/22, 10 – 4.00pm, Online](#)

This year SIRCC are offering two days of FREE online content, including webinars, workshops, exhibitions, and opportunities to network, for both individuals and teams. This is an opportunity to spark, join and contribute to debate and develop ideas that you can implement into your practice, through learning, CPD, networking, and opportunities to join together in sharing insight and experiences which will help to support children and young people in residential child care.

[Know your impact, show your impact: How to measure the impact of research or knowledge to action initiatives, 10/11/22, 12:30 – 1.30, Zoom](#)

Join Matter of Focus Co-Director and University of Edinburgh Honorary Fellow Dr Sarah Morton for a live webinar exploring how to navigate some of the challenges of understanding and assessing research impact when policy influencing, practice influencing, coproducing, engaging communities or the public, and in other approaches to mobilising knowledge that can't be simply measured.

[Public Health Information Network for Scotland 23rd Annual Seminar, 15/11/22, 9 – 1.00, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall & online](#)

As this is our first in-person event since the pandemic, we have limited the in-person spaces to 100 maximum and these will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. There is no limit to numbers attending online. Both formats are free of charge, and both require (separate) registration. NB Given the limited availability, please only register to attend in person if you are certain to attend on the day. You can download the full programme [here](#)

[Registration](#)

To attend **in person**, please [register here](#)

To attend **on-line**, please [register here](#)

[Understanding How Coercive Control Harms Children Webinar, 15/11/22, 1:00pm](#)

In this free webinar from Safe and Together, Dr Emma Katz will explore how coercive control is a multi-stranded form of abuse that encompasses many forms of harm to adults and many acts of child abuse and neglect towards children.

OFFICIAL