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Public Protection Bulletin

4th 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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COVID – 19

[The COVID-19 Pandemic and Care Homes for Older People in Europe - Deaths, Damage and Violations of Human Rights](#)

A review of secondary data sources relating to deaths, and related harms, in European care homes from seven countries between March and December 2020, which aims to identify examples of human rights violations.

[The Global Impact on Mental Health Almost 2 Years into the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

A reflection on how COVID-19 has impacted the mental health of the global population.

[Supporting social workers transition to remote work: A design concept for tackling communication challenges on social workers digital practices](#)

The main theme of this thesis is the impact of the sudden transition on service delivery caused by the COVID 19 pandemic on social workers and career practitioners in related fields.

[The COVID-19 Alcohol Paradox](#)

An analysis of the impact of the COVID-19 lockdown introduced on 23rd March 2020 on household purchases of alcohol during the remainder of 2020, using purchases averaged over the period 1st January 2015 to 31st December 2019 as controls.

[The Effect of Cyberbullying, Abuse, and Screen Time on Non-Suicidal Self-Injury Among Adolescents During the Pandemic](#)

A study that constructed and empirically tested a theoretical model of three predictive factors (cyberbullying, abuse, and screen time) and stress as the mediating factor in adolescent non-suicidal self-injury.

Children, Young People & Education

[Sex trafficking: Children groomed in Romania sent to UK](#)

The BBC has found that children as young as 10 are being groomed in Romania, to be trafficked to the UK.

[A Scoping Review of When and How a Child's View is Weighted in Decision-Making Processes in Law Proceedings](#)

An article that aims to contribute to the growing debate about children's participation in decision-making processes by creating an overview of research on how the child's view is weighted in law proceedings.

[Child Trafficking in the UK 2021: a Snapshot](#)

A report by the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner that provides an outline of child trafficking between October 2020 and October 2021, including the latest data, policy developments, examples of promising practice and challenges faced by practitioners.

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[Regulation of Child Contact Centre Services](#)

An analysis of the responses to a consultation on the regulation of child contact centre services, under the Children (Scotland) Act 2020.

[Split Up In Care - Life Without Siblings, BBC I-Player](#)

Ashley John-Baptiste presents a film about sibling relationships in the care system.

[Screening Children with a History of Maltreatment for PTSD in Frontline Social Care Organisations](#)

A study that aimed to determine whether a well-validated screening tool administered in frontline services effectively identifies diagnosable PTSD in young people with a history of maltreatment.

[The GCP2 Assessment Tool for Neglect](#)

An evaluation of an assessment tool, that aims to help practitioners take a strengths-based approach to measuring the quality of care a child is receiving and support them to identify neglect.

[Reasons to be hopeful: three steps to improving children's well-being in Scotland](#)

Jim McCormick, CEO of The Robertson Trust explains how announcements made in the Scottish Budget could help to address child poverty and improve children's well-being.

Mental Health

[Third Sector Mental Health Services Mapping Survey Report](#)

In 2021, the Citywide Forum's Mental Health Network, supported by GCVS, carried out a survey to map the extent of third sector mental health and wellbeing services to children, young people and families across Glasgow.

[Depression and anxiety rose sharply over Christmas in the UK](#)

Levels of depression and anxiety rose sharply over December in the UK, especially among young adults, reaching similar levels to lockdown at the start of 2021, according to new findings from the COVID-19 Social Study led by UCL researchers.

[Identifying Victimisation Profiles in People with Psychosis and a History of Childhood Trauma](#)

A study that aimed to identify childhood victimisation profiles in a clinical sample of people with psychosis to inform recommendations for routine care.

Disability

[Our Rights, Right Now – Conference Report](#)

It's now 2022 and disabled people still do not enjoy our rights to access, inclusion and participation. Inclusion Scotland's Annual Conference last October looked at what is happening to our rights and what needs to change.

[The Digital Society Comes Sneaking In: An Emerging Field and Its Disabling Barriers](#)

An examination of disabled people's everyday experience of social exclusion in relation to the rapid growth of digital technologies in everyday practices.

Autism, ADHD & Learning Difficulties

['My autistic sister doesn't need a foster family'](#)

Hundreds of Scots with learning disabilities are being forced to live far away from their families or are stuck in hospital for months or even years, according to a report by a charity.

[Different Minds](#)

The first national Scottish government campaign aiming to address stigma and misconceptions about autism has been launched.

Older People & Dementia

[Key Components of Post-Diagnostic Support for People with Dementia and Their Carers](#)

Research that aimed to identify the components of post-diagnostic support in dementia, highlight examples of good practice, and identify factors influencing implementation of each component.

Carers

[Young Carers and Young Adult Carers Survey 2022](#)

Carers Trust Scotland are conducting a survey for young carers and young adult carers, aged 12-25, who live in the UK. The information gathered will be used to provide updated evidence on the pressures and challenges experienced by young people as a result of their caring role, as well as the ongoing impact of Covid-19. It will also provide accurate information about what support young carers and young adult carers would most value.

Housing & Homelessness

[Safeguarding Responses to Homelessness and Self-Neglect](#)

A report on a 'Communities of Practice' project that brought together people who had experience of homelessness, practitioners in this field, and managers of relevant organisations, in a series of online meetings.

[Understanding Subjective Quality of Life in Homeless and Vulnerably Housed Individuals](#)

The findings from a four-year longitudinal study that examined levels and predictors of subjective quality-of-life among homeless and vulnerably housed individuals.

Substance Use & Addictions

[Take-Home Naloxone and the Prevention of Deaths from Heroin Overdose: Pursuing Strong Science, Fuller Understanding, Greater Impact](#)

“Take-home naloxone” is an exemplar of harm reduction with potential global impact – drug policy and practice for the public good. However, “having the potential” is not good enough – there needs to be actual implementation.

[The UK tinkers around the edges of drug policy but it still needs national reform](#)

Local trials can attempt to minimise the harm from illegal drugs, but what the UK really needs is an overhaul of its drug policy, says Ian Hamilton.

[The Prevalence of Substance Use Disorders and Substance Use in Anorexia Nervosa](#)

A systematic review and meta-analysis that aimed to assess the prevalence of substance use disorders and substance use in anorexia nervosa samples

Equality & Poverty

[Scottish Poverty and Inequality Research Annual Report](#)

SPIRU is a research unit based at Glasgow Caledonian University and this is their first annual report. It reviews the work completed in 2020 and the first half of 2021, an exceptionally difficult time for people experiencing poverty in the UK and beyond.

[Wales' universal basic income pilot too small – report](#)

Plans for a universal basic income pilot in Wales are too small, a cross-party report has found.

[Education, social mobility and outcomes for students receiving free school meals in England: initial findings on earnings outcomes by demographic and regional factors](#)

The article presents some initial findings, showing earnings outcomes for Free School Meals recipients and how these vary by personal characteristics and level of education.

[UK Poverty 2022: The Essential Guide to Understanding Poverty in the UK](#)

A report from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation which looks comprehensively at trends in poverty across all its characteristics and impacts.

Gender Based Violence

[400 sexual misconduct claims at Scottish universities](#)

Almost 400 accusations of sexual misconduct have been made to Scottish universities in the past five years, according to new figures.

[Delays in Trials: the implications for victim-survivors of rape and serious sexual assault: an update](#)

In this paper, Dr. Brooks Haye and Prof Burman discuss the implications of these delays to the operation of the criminal justice system for those reporting rape and serious sexual offences, who are disproportionately women and children.

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[Barriers to Men's Help Seeking for Intimate Partner Violence](#)

A study that builds on previous research on male intimate partner violence victimisation by female partners to inform how stigma affects help-seeking behaviours among such victims

Refugees, Asylum, Trafficking and Immigration

["It's like rubbing salt on the wound"](#)

A report on research that explored the impacts of COVID-19 and lockdown on asylum seekers and refugees.

[Trafficking and exploitation strategy: fourth annual progress report - 2020 to 2021](#)

Report setting out progress implementing the Scottish Government's Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy from 2020 to 2021.

[Project 17 Factsheets for advisers](#)

Factsheets that can be used by professionals working with families with no recourse to public funds.

[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.

Crime, Justice & Prisons

[Mapping Drug Use, Interventions and Treatment Needs in Scottish Prisons: A literature review](#)

This report summarises a literature review conducted over an 8-week period (between 1st June 2021- 25th July 2021), and addressing 3 key factors:

The prevalence and patterns of drug use in Scottish prisons.

Current treatment and harm reduction services offered in Scottish prison settings.

The treatment and harm reduction needs of people in Scottish prisons.

[Women in the Justice System](#)

A review of quantitative evidence, drawn from a range of statistical data sources across the justice system in Scotland, comparing findings for women against those for men.

Online & Financial Harm

[Covid: Fraud and computer crimes rose in lockdowns – ONS](#)

Rises in fraud and computer misuse pushed up crime by 14% in the year to September 2021, despite a drop in other offences during lockdowns.

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[Scam Share Bulletin](#)

Trading Standards Scotland warn of Covid-19 related scams in their latest edition of Scam Share.

Social Care & Practice

[Self-evaluation tool: the use of restrictive practices](#)

The Care Inspectorate have worked with the Scottish Physical Restraint Action Group (SPRAG) to develop and pilot this self-evaluation tool. It was designed for residential child care services to help with commitments to upholding and promoting human rights and the rights of the child. It will support you to evaluate how well you are doing in using restrictive practices and identify areas where you want to improve.

[New capacity guidance website launched England and Wales](#)

As part of the Mental Health & Justice project, a new website has been launched with guidelines for clinicians and social workers in England & Wales (but also of interest to others, such as lawyers) who are assessing capacity.

Events

[Information Workshops for Service Users and Carers](#)

The GCIL Development Team delivers online workshops for service users, carers, Local Authority and Third Sector members of staff.

The workshops are open to anybody, living in Glasgow, East Dunbartonshire or South Lanarkshire who is new to Self-directed Support and would like to find out more information or have specific questions answered. If you know of any service users or carers who would like more information please send them these details.

[Self-directed Support Information Workshops for HSCP staff](#)

You might be a new member of staff who has just joined the Glasgow HSCP, a student on placement or perhaps you would just like an SDS 'refresher'. Whatever the reason we invite you to attend one of GCIL online (Teams)

Self-directed Support Information Workshops on:

Thursday 10th February - 10.30am -12.30pm

Tuesday 15th March - 10.30am - 12.30pm

If you would like to attend please send an email to [Lilian Smith](#) or [Alasdair Sladen](#) detailing your name and which social work team or health setting you are from. You

[Foot Health Webinars](#)

The Care Inspectorate are hosting two webinars in February which will focus on foot health. Podiatrists will advise on personal footcare (how to carry out footcare and who should provide this care) and how to prevent avoidable harm (pressure damage) to feet. The webinars are open to all but they will be particularly useful for staff working in care home and care at home services.

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Webinar 1: Personal Footcare, Tuesday 8 February, 11:00-12:00

This webinar aims to provide guidance on how to carry out footcare, reducing the risk of poor foot health and ensuring high quality care is being provided.

Webinar 2: CPR for Feet, Tuesday 15 February, 11:00-12:00

This webinar aims to increase knowledge about avoidable pressure damage to feet.

[LGBT People's experiences of domestic abuse - Digital Seminar](#)

1 in 4 LGBT people, and up to 80% of transgender people, experience domestic abuse in their lifetime, but many face significant barriers to reporting abuse and accessing appropriate support.

This 90-minute workshop will support participants to:

- Increase understanding of language and terminology relating to LGBT identities.
- Reflect on the nature of homo/bi/transphobia and consider how this impacts on LGBT people's experience of domestic abuse.
- Understand the impact and dynamics of LGBT people's experiences of domestic abuse.
- Reflect on the nature of homo/bi/transphobia and heterosexism and consider how this impacts on LGBT people's access to support service.

[Hear our Voices, Respect our Choices; Fri, 4 March, 10:30 – 17:00, Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh or ONLINE](#)

The session will be presented by young people, parents and carers in Scotland with a passion for ensuring young people with additional support needs have a positive experience of transition to young adult life.

[Cyber Scotland Week 2022 webinars](#)

Learn more about all aspects of online security and keeping yourself protected from online viruses, scams and hackers. Click here to see more information and sign up or click on the individual webinars below. Please share in your organisation.