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Public Protection Bulletin 5th February 2025

Dear colleague,

2025 marks 850 years since Glasgow achieved its burgh status. To celebrate this, Glasgow City Council has launched its Glasgow 850 programme for 2025, a yearlong inclusive, citywide, programme of events and activities that reflect on how the city has transformed, particularly over the last fifty years, and how we can inspire accelerated change for a better, sustainable, future, over the next fifty years. You can find out more information on the [Glasgow 850 website](#).

Children's Mental Health Week runs from 3rd to 9th February 2025. This year's theme is 'know yourself, grow yourself', encouraging children to embrace and build self-awareness. To find out more, including accessing resources, visit the [Children's Mental Health Week website](#).

Glasgow's Adult Support and Protection Committee (ASPC) and Child Protection Committee (CPC) are hosting a one-day multi-agency public protection conference on 15th May 2025. The conference will explore themes and topics that cut across the child protection and adult support and protection domains.

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 and Dementia

[Adults With Incapacity Amendment Act: Summary and Analysis of Response to Consultation](#)

A summary of the analysis of responses to the Scottish Government consultation on proposals to amend the Adults with Incapacity Act 2000.

Children, Young People & Families

[A Decade of Care: A corporate parenting update from Scottish Ministers 2021 - 2024](#)

The third report on corporate parenting by Scottish Ministers. This report sets out how Scottish Ministers have fulfilled their duties as a corporate parent from 2021 to 2024, to support and improve outcomes for children and young people with care experience.

[Lord Advocate Powers within Scope of the UNCRC](#)

An article from the Children and Young People's Commission Scotland highlighting that future decisions to prosecute children and young people in Scotland must meet the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) standards following the first ever case brought concerning the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024 in Edinburgh's High Court.

[Fatal Accident Inquiry into the Deaths of Katie Allan and William Brown](#)

A Fatal Accident Inquiry into the deaths of two young people who died while imprisoned in HM Prison and Young Offenders Institution Polmont. The Sheriff ruled that both young people died by suicide. The investigation revealed several failings and makes several recommendations regarding how vulnerable young people are detained in YOI Polmont.

[Scottish Government Response to the Fatal Accident Inquiry Determination into the Deaths of Katie Allan and William Lindsay \(Brown\): Justice Secretary's statement](#)

Statement made by the Justice Secretary to the Scottish Parliament on Thursday 23 January 2025.

['Moving On' From Care into Adulthood: Consultation analysis](#)

An analysis of views shared in the recent Scottish Government consultation on the support available to young people as they leave care and enter adulthood.

[New Task Force on Online Harms Announced](#)

The Scottish Government's Minister for Children, Young People and The Promise, Natalie Don-Innes, has announced a new task force to investigate online safety and a potential social media ban for young people in Scotland.

[UK Government Action on Recommendations of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse \(IICSA\) and Grooming Gangs](#)

The UK Government's Home Secretary, Yvette Cooper, has announced a new three-month national-level "rapid audit" of grooming gangs, led by Dame Louise Casey. Alongside this, the Home Secretary announced other new initiatives including widening the remit of the child sexual abuse review panel and improving the recording of data on offenders' ethnicity in England.

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[Child Friendly Scheduling - Evaluation Report Published](#)

The Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) has published an evaluation report on one of the organisation's Keeping The Promise improvement projects, the Child Friendly Scheduling programme.

[The Role of Social Work Services in Promoting Children's Rights When Deprivation of Liberty is Being Considered](#)

Anyone involved in decisions about depriving a child of their liberty must ensure the totality of their rights are upheld. This information sheet from the Children and Young People's Centre for Justice outlines the role of social work services in doing so and covers the information that can be shared at different decision-making points.

[Effective Multi-agency Working and Information Sharing: Evidence snapshot](#)

A summary of findings from research published between 2014 and 2023 about multi-agency working and information sharing in children's social work, with accompanying practice points and videos.

[GIRFEC, Child Protection and Transitions: A learning resource on best practice principles guidance document](#)

This learning resource from CELCIS is intended to offer an opportunity to reflect on how we can get it right for every child and young person in need of our support. The primary target groups are what is known as the Specific and Intensive Workforces (as per national-framework-child-protection-learning-development-scotland-2024.pdf). These guidance notes outline how these learning resources can be used across multi-agency children's services workforces. They may also be useful for colleagues in adult services.

[Handbook of Children and Screens: Digital media, development, and well-being from birth to adolescence](#)

This handbook synthesises the current research about the impacts of digital media on children across development. Drawing on the expertise of scientists and researchers as well as clinicians and practitioners, the book summarizes research through interdisciplinary expert reviews.

[The Sibling Sexual Behaviour Mapping Tool \(SSBMT\): Supporting practitioner confidence, planning and competency when responding to sexual behaviours between siblings](#)

This paper outlines the development and initial pilot of the Sibling Sexual Behaviour Mapping Tool (SSBMT). Building on the findings of the National Project on Sibling Sexual Abuse (King-Hill, McCartan, et al., 2023) and work by Yates and Allardyce (2023), the tool was devised with the aim of supporting frontline child-protection social workers during the initial stages of working with families where sibling sexual behaviours (SSB) may be present.

[Everyone Has a Role to Play in Preventing Child Exploitation: A youth voice report](#)

The findings from a Children's Society consultation exercise that aimed to gain insight from young people on how members of the public, business, and statutory services respond to children and young people who may be at risk of or experiencing child exploitation in a range of settings.

[Mental Health First Aid Kits](#)

A mental health first aid kit contains a selection of resources to help young people manage their mental health if they're struggling, such as ways to distract oneself,

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relax or calm down, and pointers to further support. This podcast episode from the NSPCC provides information on the mental health first aid kit and how it can be used with young people.

Crime, Justice & Prisons

[An Evidence-Informed Model and Guide for Effective Relational Working in Youth Justice](#)

This report from HM Inspectorate of Probation presents findings from a three-year top-down/bottom-up action research project undertaken in Ireland which examined effective relationship building between youth justice practitioners and crime-involved young people.

[Justice Social Work Statistics in Scotland: 2023-24 - Part 2](#)

The annual publication for justice social work statistics from the Scottish Government has been split into two parts. The splitting of the publication allows the reporting of part of the annual data collection to be provided to users about four months earlier. There has been no significant change to the data collected, only to the way it has been published.

Disability, Learning Difficulties & Neurodiversity

[People with Learning Disabilities Will be Supported to Reach their Full Potential Through a £1.6 million Fund](#)

The Learning Disability Support Fund will be available to third sector organisations to enable them to promote equality and inclusion and improve access to health services and social activities for people with learning disabilities.

[More Than Money: The lifelong wellbeing impact of disability benefits](#)

A research report from Pro Bono Economics that explores the lifelong wellbeing impact of disability benefits. The report also urges the government to prioritise improving access to disability benefits for those whose quality of life depends on this support.

[Hospital is Not Home: The circumstances of people with learning disability and complex needs who have been hospitalised for 10 years or more](#)

As a consequence of the information provided within the Public Health Scotland (PHS) report [Insights into Learning Disability and Complex Needs: Statistics for Scotland](#), the Scottish Government asked the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland (the Commission) to review the care and treatment of the 30 people referred to and to confirm whether all appropriate safeguards were in place. This report sets out the Commission's findings in relation to the 30 people identified within the PHS report in addition to a further 25 people in long term hospital placements identified by health and social care partnerships (HSCPs).

[A Constant Fight](#)

This report from the National Autistic Society highlights the fights and waits autistic people face to get support. The report highlights how autistic people are bearing the brunt of broken systems across society and includes stories of those let down by a lack of support.

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[Know Yourself: Resources for autistic teenagers](#)

A set of resources from the National Autistic Society to support autistic teenagers in understanding what being autistic means to them. The resources have been co-produced with autistic young people and feature many talking about their own experiences and what has helped them. The aim is to offer information and ideas to empower teenagers to begin to explore their own experiences and understand themselves more.

Equality & Poverty

[UK Poverty 2025: The essential guide to understanding poverty in the UK](#)

This report from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation sets out the nature of poverty in the UK in the run-up to 2024's General Election. It also sets out the scale of action necessary for the Government to deliver the change it has promised.

[Working Poverty Out: The role of employment and progression in a child poverty strategy](#)

The Resolution Foundation has published a report regarding the role of employment and progression in relation to the UK Government's Child Poverty Strategy, with the recommendation that there should be more support for working parents with childcare and community costs.

[£5 Million Research Grant Awarded to Glasgow to Tackle Health Inequalities](#)

Glasgow has been awarded £5million research funding over the next five years to help improve the lives of citizens and tackle health inequalities.

[Scottish House Condition Survey Finds Scotland's Fuel Poverty Rate Rose to 34% in 2023](#)

More than a third of all households in Scotland are estimated to have spent at least 10% of their incomes after housing costs on keeping their homes warm, according to the latest Scottish House Condition Survey (SHCS) for 2023.

[Driving Healthy Futures: Fuelling Food Equity](#)

SEEN – a Barnardo's initiative that aims to create better outcomes for children and young people of African, Asian and Caribbean heritage – has produced this report, highlighting the disproportionate impact of food poverty on marginalised communities. It also highlights a need for greater understanding about how food is deeply linked to a person's identity and heritage.

Events & Courses

[Emerging Insights Children's Services Reform Research: Getting It Right For Every Child \(GIRFEC\) and its implementation - 30/01/25 - 11.15am-12.45pm - MS Teams](#)

The Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) approach to supporting all children and young people in Scotland has been in place for two decades. On the 20th anniversary, what does the [Children's Services Reform Research study](#) tell us about the implementation of this approach? What is getting in the way of responding to the needs of children and their families at the right time, with the right support, when they need this?

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[Carer Harm: A Challenge for Practitioners, Services and Research Webinar - 05/02/24 - 2pm-4pm - Zoom](#)

This webinar from the European Social Work Research Association (ESWRA) considers how carer harm is understood, surfaced and responded to in contemporary policy, practice and research. The intention is that in mapping this landscape, promising linkages between areas of practice and research are identified and attention is drawn to the common obstacles that inhibit effective, sensitive responses to carer harm.

[Understanding and Contextualising the Social Harms Facing Care Experienced Young People in Scotland and Wales webinar - 12/02/25 - 2pm-3.30pm MS Teams](#)

A webinar from Children and Young People's Centre for Justice (CYCJ) offering new insights into care for young people across Wales and Scotland, exposing social harms affecting the young people, identifying what participants considered to be effective practice and considering the types of changes which are still needed in this critical area of policy.

[Data Drive Insights: Exploring the lives of care experienced children and young people webinar - 13/02/25 - 12 noon-1pm - Zoom](#)

This webinar from ADR UK and the National Centre for Social Research will provide an opportunity for researchers, policymakers and practitioners to gain valuable insights about the life chances of care experienced children based on their administrative data and hear first-hand from care experienced young people and former Children's Commissioners.

[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.

[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.

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[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.

[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

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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 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
- 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 \(MS Teams\)](#)

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.

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Dates are as follows:

[12th February 2025](#)

[12th March 2025](#)

[9th April 2025](#)

[6th May 2025](#)

[4th June 2025](#)

Health and Social Care

[National Care Service Plans Abandoned](#)

The Scottish government is to abandon structural reform of Scotland's social care system, blaming a lack of support in the Scottish parliament and beyond.

Housing and Homelessness

[Glasgow Targets Owners of Empty Homes with New Campaign to Sell or Rent Out Properties](#)

The owners of thousands of empty homes across Glasgow are being urged to sell or rent out their properties to help combat the city's housing emergency.

[Action Plan Launched to Tackle Glasgow's Housing Emergency](#)

A Housing Emergency Action Plan has been published in response to the unprecedented challenges facing Glasgow's homelessness service and the declaration of a housing emergency in the city.

Mental Health & Trauma

[The Right to Health: People with eating disorders are being failed](#)

A report from the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Eating Disorder that examines the challenges facing people with eating disorders, including those who are struggling to access care, as well as the issues affecting eating disorder services.

[Independent Review into the Delivery of Forensic Mental Health Services: Scottish Government Progress Update Report 2024](#)

An update on the progress towards delivering the recommendations from the Independent Review into the Delivery of Forensic Mental Health Services (the "Barron Review").

[Mental Welfare Commission Local Visit Reports - January 2025](#)

The Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland has published new reports. The reports highlight positive and negative findings from the Commission's visits. They make recommendations for change where necessary. The Commission expects a response to each of its recommendations within three months of the reports being published. The reports include:

- [The State Hospital - Arran & Iona Hubs](#)
- [Stobhill Hospital - Armadale and Broadford Ward](#)

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

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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

[Study Reveals Keys to Public Engagement in Research](#)

A pioneering study looking into how best to engage research participants through patient and public involvement (PPI) activity has been published following an event led by the NHS Research Scotland (NRS) Cardiovascular (CV) Clinical Network.

[Iriss Strategy 2025 - 35](#)

After a period of consultation, strategising and development, Iriss has released this document outlining the organisations strategy from 2025 to 2035. Grounded in the current conditions of the sector, the strategy outlines the organisations priorities, goals and ambitions for the next ten years.

Substance Use & Addiction

[Drug and Alcohol Workforce: Learning directory](#)

This Learning Directory from the Scottish Government provides access to a wide range of resources to help those working with people affected by substance use to develop knowledge and skills. It's designed to support personal and professional growth by providing the most up-to-date and relevant learning opportunities.

[Gambling-related Harms: Identification, assessment and management](#)

Guidance from NICE which covers identifying, assessing and treating gambling-related harms. This includes people aged 18 and over who are experiencing gambling that harms, and people of any age affected by someone close to them who is experiencing gambling that harms.