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## Public Protection Bulletin

5<sup>th</sup> August 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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### COVID – 19

#### [The Utility of Administrative Data in Understanding the COVID-19 Pandemic's Impact on Child Maltreatment: Learning From the Scotland Experience](#)

An article that uses a new weekly Scottish statistical dataset – the Vulnerable Children and Young People Dataset – to critically discuss the value of administrative data in understanding the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on child maltreatment levels.

#### [Alcohol deaths from pandemic drinking are predicted to rise](#)

Heavy home drinking during the pandemic may have set habits that will lead to rises in alcohol-related deaths and illness in England, forecasters warn.

#### [Housing Environment and Mental Health of Europeans During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

A study that investigated the relationship between housing conditions and the mental health of populations across three European countries during the pandemic

### Children, Young People & Education

#### [Deprivation remains key factor in young pregnancies](#)

The teenage pregnancy rate in Scotland has fallen to its lowest level since reporting began but remains highest in Scotland's most deprived communities.

Statistics issued by [Public Health Scotland](#) for women aged under 20 at the time of conception show 3,300 teenage pregnancies in 2020, representing 23.9 per 1,000 women.

#### [New podcast: young people share experiences of the justice system](#)

Community Justice Scotland has teamed up with The Empathy Museum to produce the Our Justice podcasts. Our Justice is a series of true stories and conversations co-produced by young people who have experienced the Scottish justice system. The aim is to empower young people to share their stories and improve public understanding.

#### [My baby was taken into care - then murdered](#)

The BBC Leiland-James was taken from his mother in hospital and placed in care. He went on to be killed by the woman who wanted to adopt him.

#### [Mental Disorders into Adulthood Among Adolescents Placed in Residential Care](#)

A study that examined the rates of mental disorders in adolescence and adulthood in child welfare and juvenile justice samples and explored their mental health trajectories from adolescence into adulthood.

#### [Bringing up the next generation: from research to policy](#)

A new report from the Nuffield Foundation sets out our vision for early childhood based on the evidence reviewed in their six-part *Changing face of early childhood series*, led by Carey Oppenheim.

Bringing up the next generation: from research to policy concludes that young children and their families are in urgent need of better support. Two-fifths of children do not reach their

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expected level of development by age five and more than a third of families with young children are living in poverty. Public policy has not kept pace with changes in the lives of young children and their families over the last two decades, and inequalities are compounded by the impacts of the pandemic and the cost of living crisis.

### [Research in Practice: Supporting families in pre-proceedings and the family court](#)

The pre-proceedings and family justice hub has been developed through the Department for Education Covid Recovery and Building Back Better funding, in partnership with Essex County Council and the regional leads involved in the project across England. It is intended to support local authorities and Children's Trusts to respond to the President of the Family Division Public Law Advisory Group report (Dec 2020), the Family Justice Board Statement 'Priorities for the Family Justice System' (Dec 2020) and the need to reduce court backlogs.

### [Education Outcomes for Looked After Children 2020-21](#)

The Scottish Government has published the national Education Outcomes for Looked After Children for 2020-21 statistics report. The report shows that the education outcomes for 'looked after' young people have generally improved in recent years, however there are still gaps in attainment compared to the total population of pupils in Scotland.

### [Supporting birth parents](#)

Scottish Adoption, with support from Adoption Plus, has launched the Bluebird Project to support birth parents living in Edinburgh or the Lothians who have had a child permanently removed from their care by providing a safe space to talk about their experiences, as well as offering counselling.

## Disabilities

### [Adult Disability Payment](#)

Adult Disability Payment is now available in 13 Scottish council areas, ahead of opening nationwide on 29 August 2022.

### [Two new easy read guides to help people with learning disabilities understand and access health information](#)

Two new easy read guides have been produced by the NHS and funded by Health Education England. They were produced by NHS Knowledge and Library Services in partnership with people with lived experience.

## Autism, ADHD & Learning Difficulties

### [Age Within Schoolyear and Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder in Scotland and Wales](#)

A study that investigated the association between relative age and treated ADHD.

## Mental Health

### [Beyond Diagnosis - Bipolar Scotland](#)

A new peer-led service for adults in Scotland who have been recently diagnosed with bipolar. Beyond Diagnosis offers adults in Scotland that are newly diagnosed with bipolar

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the unique experience of engaging with Peer Workers and Peer Volunteers who can support you for up to six months. Diagnosis affects everyone differently.

[They have also created a short video that explains the service here.](#)

### [Fewer suicides in Scotland](#)

There were 753 probable suicides in Scotland in 2021, a decrease of 52 (6%) from 2020, according to new figures from the National Records of Scotland.

Most of the decrease in the past year can be attributed to a fall in female suicides, which decreased by 42 (18%). The rate of suicide in males was 3.2 times as high as the rate for females.

### [Mental Health in the Workplace](#)

Whatever your job role, there will be times when you are likely to come across challenges which may be stressful and traumatic. The most recent Ann Craft Trust newsletter has a special focus on this topic.

## Adults, Older People & Dementia

### [Large Scale Investigations](#)

This online learning resource explains the role of large scale investigations (LSIs) within the context of adult support and protection (ASP) practices in Scotland.

The resource primarily consists of a series of video interviews with experts and professionals who share their knowledge and experience on a number of aspects around large scale investigations and allows learners to record their own reflections on a number of suggested learning points.

### [Abuse of the Elderly in Nursing Homes: A Scoping Review](#)

A study that aimed to determine the risk factors that influence elder abuse in nursing care homes, and to find out ways for curbing this form of abuse.

### [Continence, Dementia, and Care that Preserves Dignity](#)

An evidence review from the National Institute for Health and Care Research.

## Carers

### [Unpaid carers invited to have their say](#)

The annual State of Caring survey, one of the largest research exercises to gather the thoughts and experience of Scotland's unpaid carers, has been [launched](#).

### [Responding to the voice of older carers – building on what works: Practice Tool](#)

Using the voice of carers and practice experts, this publication aims to provide tools to support social care and health professionals to work effectively with older carers.

## Housing & Homelessness

### [75 ways to prevent homelessness](#)

Crisis have published a compendium of projects, services and approaches. With practical examples of homelessness prevention from Scotland and beyond, we hope this resource serves as a library that you return to and add to. It is designed to inspire practitioners, legislators, commissioners, service designers and funders.

### [Housing First principles hailed by Drug Deaths Taskforce as best practice for future services](#)

A final report from the Scottish Government's Drug Deaths Taskforce has highlighted the holistic approach used by Housing First as a model for the provision of future services in other areas.

## Substance Use & Addictions

### [Small decrease in drug death figures](#)

1,330 people lost their lives to drug misuse in Scotland in 2021, according to latest figures published by National Records of Scotland.

The number is 1% lower than 2020 which makes it the first year since 2013 in which drug misuse deaths have not increased. However, it is still the second highest annual total on record.

### [Differential impact of minimum unit pricing on alcohol consumption between Scottish men and women: controlled interrupted time series analysis](#)

Research led by Professor Peter Anderson shows minimum unit pricing has not reduced alcohol consumption amongst the heaviest drinking men living in deprived areas in Scotland.

### [Changing Lives - Final Report](#)

The Drugs Deaths Taskforce's final report, Changing Lives, was published on the 21st July 2022.

## Equality & Poverty

Public Health Scotland has launched new learning hubs dedicated to [Breaking Barriers to Reduce Inequalities](#) and [Demonstrating Impact on Health Inequalities](#)

The hubs are primarily for those in public service roles (including health, social care, education, housing, police, fire and rescue services) across all sectors. It is also useful for everyone who works in public service as it will support action to reduce inequalities and improve population life outcomes. The hubs have been designed as flexible resources where learners can dip in and out of sections, based on their learning needs, source information about how they can improve their day-to-day working practice and take action. The hubs are free and can be easily accessed by logging in, enrolling or creating an account on Public Health Scotland's Virtual learning environment.

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### [Community Active Travel Support Service](#)

Sustrans Scotland have just launched a new programme, the Community Active Travel Support Service. This service is specifically for organisations working in SIMD 1-2 areas, or with people who experience inequality, for example; young people, disabled people, people of colour, LGBT+ etc.

### [MPs call for pause on deductions from benefits to ease cost of living crisis](#)

Automatic repayments to the UK Government and others owed by people claiming benefits should be put on hold to help households struggling with huge financial pressures during the cost of living crisis, MPs have said.

## Gender Based Violence

### [Who Counts? The Invisibility of Mothers as Victims of Femicide](#)

This article focuses on the important and persistent phenomenon of women killed by their sons. We argue that parricide (the killing of parents) is a gendered form of violence, given that women are disproportionately represented as victims compared to other forms of violence (aside from domestic homicide by current or ex partners) and that son-mother killings are a form of femicide that is often hidden.

### [Men's Survey - Help Wise Women Identify Incidents of Harassment and Abuse of Women](#)

Many men think that the public harassment and abuse of women is unacceptable. [Wise Women](#) want to help make Glasgow safer for women and those in the community who would like to intervene when they witness harassment and abuse.

Help them by completing this survey. Tell them what you witnessed and if you felt able to intervene. If you couldn't intervene, tell them what you think could have made a difference.

### [The Financial Leash](#)

A paper that explores the experiences and effect of cyberfinancial abuse, such as identity theft and fraud, on people with a history of intimate partner violence victimisation.

## Refugees, Asylum, Trafficking and Immigration

### [Exploring the Interface Between Asylum, Human Trafficking and/or Modern Slavery Within a Hostile Environment in the UK](#)

A paper that explores the distinctions, interface, key points of contact, and disconnects between asylum and trafficking in the UK.

## Crime, Justice & Prisons

### [Institutionalising Restorative Justice for Adults in Scotland](#)

An empirical study of criminal justice practitioners' perspectives on Scottish Government's efforts to institutionalise restorative justice, including the goal of making it available nationwide by 2023.

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### Online & Financial Harm

#### [Image-based sex abuse doubles in five years](#)

The number of cases where someone discloses or threatens to disclose an intimate image has more than doubled. Analysis by Police publication 1919 has revealed that police recorded 912 incidents last year, a rate of more than 17 a week. That compares to 421 in 2017/18, with the trend steadily increasing over the years.

#### [Trading Standards Scotland Bulletin](#)

The latest edition of the Scam Share bulletin has been published by TSS. Stay Scam Aware and please share any relevant information.

### Events

#### [To love or to punish? That is the question, The Royal Society of Edinburgh, 11/08/22, 1:00 – 2:00pm](#)

What do life stories of people involved in crime from childhood to middle-age tell us about offender management and delivering justice?

During this event, we will share some of the life journeys of people involved in serious crime from a young age. These journeys challenge certain popular perceptions about crime and punishment – both their causes and impacts. The event draws on findings from the latest phase of the Edinburgh Study of Youth Transitions and Crime (funded by the Nuffield Foundation). Join us to explore whether it is tougher on crime to love or to punish.

#### [Closer to home: a place-based approach to preventing homelessness, Homeless Network Scotland, 23/08/22, 10:00 – 2:00pm](#)

All homelessness starts in a community, so a place-based approach to preventing it happening is part of a wider shift towards employing assets that already exist in communities to improve wellbeing, address poverty and prevent homelessness. The learning experience will connect the causes and drivers of homelessness with the local knowledge and services that can provide an early warning approach using a simple two-point technique. It is designed for professionals working with people at risk or those who come into regular contact with members of the public. There is a cost to attend.

#### [Data stories: unlocking the power of data to tell a story of impact, 29/08/22, 12:30 – 1:30pm](#)

How can you use data well to highlight the impact of your work? How can you bring together different kinds of data, words, pictures, numbers to highlight your contribution?

These were the challenges that the Children's Parliament set for a Creative Informatics project, sponsored by the University of Edinburgh, that Matter of Focus answered with collaborators from the design agency More Yum.

This webinar will be introduced by Matter of Focus Co-Director Sarah Morton, with contributions from Rona Blackwood (Head of Programmes) and Vicky Wan (Programme Manager Capacity Building) from the Children's Parliament.

This webinar is for anyone with an interest in:

- Children's rights

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- Outcome-based working
- Evaluation approaches
- Tracking impact
- Tools for engaging communication

### [Early and Effective Intervention Film Launch, 29/08/22, 3:15pm, Microsoft Teams](#)

Early and Effective Intervention (EEI) is a national framework for working with young people from 8 years through to 17 years of age who have been involved in offending behaviour.

Created by Street Cones and funded by Community Justice Glasgow, the new video utilises young actors from North United Communities Drama Group to bring to life some anonymised case studies of children and young people who have been referred to EEI.

Within Glasgow, EEI is managed by Glasgow City Council, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability. Our team of Case Management Workers receive referrals from Police Scotland then triage these, engaging with partners such as the Health and Social Care Partnership, Police Scotland, Education, Voluntary Sector and Glasgow Life. Most importantly, our team engage with the child or young person as their views, opinions and concerns are at the heart of any decision making regarding the referral.

The launch of this film will ensure that children, young people and their families understand what our service can offer and the importance of engaging with the team.

The launch event will include the premier of our video, a question-and-answer session and the opportunity to find out more about our service.

### [UNCRC in Scotland – GIRFEC: Policy into Practice, 30/08/22, 10:00 – 12:00, online](#)

This event is the latest event in the Making Rights Real Event series hosted through a National Collaborative of Third Sector Partners: Together, GCVS, Children's Parliament, The ALLIANCE, Scottish Child Law Centre, and Children in Scotland (STTS Project).

Key learnings:

- Updates from the Scottish Government GIRFEC team about the guidance refresh
- Participation of children and young people in the policy refresh
- Creative practice from Third Sector Children's Services to bring the National Practice Framework to life
- Resources for practitioners to use to ensure children, young people and families are kept at the heart of GIRFEC in policy and practice.

The session is aimed at anyone working or volunteering in the children's services sector.

### [Transitional Safeguarding & Homelessness, 26/09/22, 14:00 – 16:00, Zoom](#)

Continuing the sequence of webinars on adult safeguarding and homelessness, this webinar will focus on Transitional Safeguarding where young people and young adults have experienced homelessness and/or insecure forms of accommodation. There will be presentations that draw on findings from safeguarding adult reviews and serious case reviews, and from research.

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