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Public Protection Bulletin

7th January 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

[A 'new normal' Snapshot report on the needs of children and young people since full-time return to education in August 2021](#)

Barnardo's has published findings from a survey of Barnardo's school-based practitioners in Scotland about the wellbeing of young people. Findings from the 49 Barnardo's practitioners who responded to the survey include: 94% felt that children and young people have more worries now than before the pandemic, with 63% of staff identifying anxiety as the most significant wellbeing issue affecting children and young people; and 78% of staff didn't believe that children and young people have access to the appropriate supports to address their mental health needs.

[Changes in Parent-Reported Child and Adolescent Mental Health Throughout the UK's First COVID-19 National Lockdown](#)

This study aimed to explore the trajectories of change in children and adolescents' mental health (as reported by their parents/carers) during the UK's first national lockdown in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

[What Long-Term Care Interventions and Policy Measures Have Been Studied During the COVID-19 Pandemic?](#)

A study that aimed to map the international scientific evidence on interventions and policy measures to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on people who use and provide long-term care.

[Implementation, Adoption, and Perceptions of Telemental Health During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

A study that aimed to investigate the adoption and impacts of telemental health approaches during the COVID-19 pandemic, and facilitators and barriers to optimal implementation.

Children, Young People & Education

[Revised Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Supplementary National Child Protection Guidance](#)

Guidance for Chief Officers, Chief Social Work Officers and Child Protection Committees on the continuity of services, updated on 24 December 2021.

It supplements the existing National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland, and should be read alongside other COVID-19 guidance. It will be kept under review and updated as the pandemic develops.

This version replaces the COVID-19 supplementary guidance last updated on 22 December 2020.

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[Our Hearings, Our Voice Evaluation Report 2021](#)

An evaluation of the work of Our Hearings, Our Voice, an independent board of Hearings-experienced children and young people established in 2018 to enable Hearings-experienced young people to have an influence on the operation and development of the Children's Hearings System.

[Making a Difference to Young People's Lives Through Personalised Care: Mental Health Inequalities and Social Deprivation](#)

A report that aims to understand how personalised care interventions can better support children and young people who experience poor mental health and social deprivation, and to develop evidence regarding what works to enhance the personalised care offer for this cohort.

[Domestic abuse and child protection: Changing the conversation – making a difference for children and families](#)

These resources are intended to support practitioners and policy makers in service design and practice with families where there is a perpetrator of Domestic Violence or Abuse.

[Strengthening Families, Protecting Children Programme update](#)

The Social Care Institute of Excellence 'Strengthening Families, Protecting Children' programme is designed to support local authorities improve their work with families. The website connects the programme with wider research and policy, setting the scene for the role innovation has to play in children's social care. The outcomes of the recent learning event and workshops, plus new articles and an evaluation with these latest updates are available on the website.

[Emotional Abuse](#)

NSPCC Learning has updated its information on protecting children from emotional abuse. The web pages cover: the impact of emotional abuse and recognising, responding to and preventing emotional abuse. NSPCC Learning has also published a briefing summarising statistics around emotional abuse. Findings include: although most child abuse includes an element of emotional abuse, it is recorded as a specific concern for just over 1 in 3 children who are the subject of a child protection plan or on a child protection register in the UK.

[Age of Criminal Responsibility \(Scotland\) Act – Places of Safety](#)

The Scottish Government has published a list of places of safety across Scotland which may be used by police where a child under the age of 12 is involved in a serious incident, as required by the Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019.

Mental Health

[What Service Users Want](#)

A podcast in which Dr Mark Wilberforce talks about the findings of a study he co-authored which explored what service users want from their mental health social worker.

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Disability

[Everyday Hate and Affective Possibility: Disabled People's Negotiations of Space, Place and Identity](#)

Although a universal conceptualisation of disability hate crime does not exist, it is widely agreed that hate 'hurts' more than other types of crime. This paper explores the diverse affects of hate crime and the various ways that these experiences can harm those who are targeted. Moving beyond this, this article attends to the diverse ways that the affects of hate can come to shape disabled people's everyday navigations of their surrounding social worlds.

Autism, ADHD & Learning Difficulties

[Tony Hickmott: Autistic man was 'loneliest man in the hospital'](#)

A whistle-blower in the case of an autistic man who has been detained in hospital since 2001 says he feels complicit in his "neglect and abuse".

A BBC investigation found 100 people with learning disabilities have been held in specialist hospitals for 20 years or more, including Tony Hickmott.

Older People & Dementia

[Knowledge is Power](#)

Published last year and written by people living with dementia, this brilliant booklet contains a wealth of information and resources for anyone receiving a diagnosis of dementia in Scotland.

Housing & Homelessness

[Working to improve housing, planning and homelessness statistics across the UK](#)

High quality housing, planning and homelessness statistics are key areas of focus for governments across the four nations of the UK and their citizens. There is a need for a greater understanding of housing affordability, levels of homelessness and housing stock. In this blog, Debra Prestwood explains the continuing collaboration the ONS is leading across the Government Statistical Service (GSS) to improve statistics in these areas.

[Homeless man who lost 21 tenancies 'saved from brink of death' by Housing First](#)

At the age of 38, scaffolder's labourer, Gary, has had and lost 21 tenancies.

Substance Use & Addictions

[Women's Report](#)

In February 2021, the Taskforce had a discussion about the particular issues facing women who use drugs and their families. It was decided to set up a short life working group to further explore the key themes and recommendations from the literature and consider their practical application. All members of the working group had a strong interest in this work, some with professional experience and others with lived experience.

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[Residential Rehabilitation statistics released](#)

Public Health Scotland release shows that of the 202 statutory funded residential rehabilitation placements in Scotland from April to September this year, 133 placements were for people with alcohol dependency and 79 for drug dependency only.

Equality & Poverty

[Glasgow Violence Against Women's Partnership - Women's Safety Survey](#)

Wise Women, in partnership with Glasgow Girls Club, Commonplace and Glasgow Violence Against Women's Partnership, have launched a women's safety survey in Glasgow. This survey is an opportunity to inform us of women's experiences of harassment and abuse in public spaces in the city.

The survey is open until 1 March 2022 to any woman who experiences harassment and / or abuse in Glasgow. This includes workers and visitors to the city.

Gender Based Violence

[The Impact of Domestic Abuse on Children and Young People: Insight from the Voices of Parents and Carers](#)

A briefing that highlights the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people from parents who contacted the NSPCC helpline during 2020/21.

Refugees, Asylum and Immigration

[Sanctuary, Safety and Solidarity: LGBT asylum seekers and refugees](#)

The Equality Network has updated its guide for service providers on how to better support lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans asylum seekers and refugees. The guide covers subjects including mental health, housing, poverty and exploitation.

Crime, Justice & Prisons

[Justice Overview Report 2018-2021](#)

The Care Inspectorate has published a report providing an overview of its justice-related scrutiny and assurance work over the last three years. The report highlights the benefits of trauma-informed staff, and the need for greater consistency in community justice social work practice.

Online & Financial Harm

[Scams Awareness & Prevention](#)

Scams Booklet and Checklist designed to encourage people to "Stop and think - this could be a scam".

[SWGfL Launch Updated TikTok Checklist](#)

SWGfL have brought out an updated TikTok checklist available to download and preorder. Last week they hosted an online event with TikTok titled 'Exploring Media Literacy' where

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the new checklist was introduced and new resources were explained to a host of professionals working with children and young people.

Social Care & Practice

[Social Workers and Client Resistance Behaviours](#)

A study that aimed to explore the extent that social workers feel competent and confident to respond to client resistance behaviour.

[Significant Case Review - P19](#)

A Significant Case Review - P19 has been published 25 November 2021 by the Angus Adult Protection Committee (AAPC). A resident of Angus, P19 died as a result of end-stage cancer in December 2018, aged 50. P19 had been identified as an “adult at risk” in August 2018 and there was involvement by a number of agencies and services prior to their death.

Events

[Self-Care Following Distressing Traumatic Experiences, CRUSE Bereavement Care, 11 January 2022, 09:30 to 12:30](#)

Interactive discussion to highlight the importance of self-care following exposure to traumatic incidents, identifying routes for further help if needed.

Further sessions: 18th & 31st Jan and 16th Feb

[Wellbeing when Working with Grief, Distress & Trauma, CRUSE Bereavement Care, 14 January 2022, 09:30 – 12:30](#)

Interactive discussion to help develop an understanding of the additional stresses brought about by sudden and /or traumatic deaths on grief and wellbeing.

Further sessions: 21st & 27th Jan and 11th Feb

[Compassionate Conversations Over Grief, CRUSE Bereavement Care, 24 January, 16:00 – 19:00](#)

Interactive discussion to help develop an understanding of compassionate conversations and how grief can affect functioning and communication.

Further session: 8 Feb

[Children’s Hearings Advocacy webinar, Wednesday 19 January 2022, 10:30-12:00](#)

The first year milestone of the children’s advocacy for Children’s Hearings national scheme passed on 21 November 2021. We want to celebrate and give recognition to the remarkable progress that has been made. We will highlight benefits the scheme has created for children and young people and give validation and support to the practitioners making better hearings a reality. Through sharing progress, we hope to encourage continuing partnership working to build the profile and identity of the advocacy discipline, with a view to further building confidence and resilience.

The event is for frontline children’s services partner agencies including social work teams, Scottish Children’s Reporter Administration, Children’s Hearings Scotland and Children’s

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Panel Members, children's advocacy organisations and other partners who support children and young people who experience the Children's Hearings system.

[Glasgow People's Health Inquiry - Evidence Analysis by People's Health Movement Scotland, Thu, 20 January 2022, 12:30 – 14:00](#)

A meeting to discuss the evidence submitted to the Glasgow People's Health Inquiry in September 2021. PHMS will have the first draft of the report ready to share at least 1 week before the event. If you intend on coming they ask that you contribute having read the report.

[Supporting primary care teams to talk and be with people who are bereaved or experiencing living grief, 26 January, 17:00 – 18:00](#)

This NES Bereavement webinar will address how to talk and be with people - whether patients, families, carers and colleagues - who are experiencing bereavement or 'living grief', considering the sense of loss that may follow knowing or caring for someone with a long-term or degenerative condition. The webinar will also aim to support health and social care professionals to access information and resources hosted on the NES Support Around Death website (www.sad.scot.nhs.uk).

[Save the Date - Learning Review K Hub Community of Practice Learning Event - Parental Mental Health Thematic Review by Glasgow CPC, 27th January from 1:30-3pm](#)

Glasgow's Child Protection Committee noted an increase between March and September 2020 in the number of children placed on the child protection register with a risk indicator of parental mental health and undertook a thematic review to explore any trends or factors which may have contributed to this (including any potential links to the COVID-19 pandemic). The review was led by Karen Frew, Lead Officer Public Protection who will lead a session as part of the learning event series offered by the Learning Review K Hub Community of Practice. The session will take place on 27th January from 1:30-3pm and will cover the process of the review, the key findings and the action which resulted from the learning obtained with an opportunity for discussion within the session.

The learning event is open to both members and non-members of the Learning Review Knowledge Hub community of practice. If you are a member of the Learning Review KHub you will be able to join on the day by clicking the link in the events page. If you are not a member and would like to attend please contact cpccotland-liaison@strath.ac.uk.

[Energy advice workshops](#)

Age Scotland's free online energy workshops enable older people to get a better understanding of their household energy use, supporting them to stay warm and save money on their bills.

The workshops cover a range of topics, including energy efficiency, accessing benefits and financial support which could help with energy costs and looking at future options for heating. These workshops are free to attend and will provide useful information for older people and those who support them.

To book your spot on an energy advice workshop just click on the date you would like to book below. You will be redirected to Eventbrite to book your free place.

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- [12th January 2pm - 4pm](#)
- [1st February 10am - 12pm](#)
- [10th February 10am -12pm](#)
- [22nd February 10am -12pm](#)

[Digital Accessibility Training for Employability: Webinar Series](#)

As part of Lead Scotland's Build Back Digital project, they are offering a series of free webinars via Zoom exploring accessibility within digital content.

The webinars are hosted via Zoom and will make use of Google Jamboard. You do not need a Zoom account or Google account to participate, but you will need an email address and a reasonable internet connection. You do not need to be a computer expert, but you should be comfortable with web browsing and basic computer functions. You can attend as many of the webinars as you would like, but you must register for each one individually. The first webinar is on 25 Jan, and looks at Layout.

[Alcohol Occasionals 2022 – Save the dates](#)

Please save the dates for the SHAAP/SARN Alcohol Occasionals seminar series. They will all be held 12:30pm-2pm UK time and you will be able to join online, on the following dates: Thursday 31 March, Wednesday 20 April, Monday 23 May, Tuesday 21 June.

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