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Public Protection Bulletin

9th December 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

[Covid Babies Research](#)

The Evening Standard has reported on new research from the First 1001 Days Movement and Institute of Health Visiting which highlights that babies and toddlers born during the COVID-19 pandemic are still behind on their development, including personal and social skills, communication, speech and language abilities and emotional wellbeing and development.

[Older Adults' Mental Health Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

An evidence review of older adults' mental health in Scotland and the access to and delivery of older adults' mental health services.

[Children and Young People's Wellbeing and Mental Health During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

The key findings from a review of the evidence on the influence of the COVID-19 pandemic and the country's response to it on the wellbeing and mental health of children and young people in the UK.

Children, Young People & Education

[Rethinking Domestic Abuse in Child Protection \(R-DAC\): What does the research tell us?](#)

R-DAC is an exciting research project which brings together a team of researchers, domestic abuse specialists and experts in supporting policy and practice.

[Quarter of 17-19-year-olds have probable mental disorder - study](#)

One in four 17- to 19-year-olds in England had a probable mental disorder in 2022 - up from one in six in 2021, according to an NHS Digital report.

[Fostering and adoption 2021–22: A statistical bulletin](#)

Based on data collected by the Care Inspectorate from service providers in their annual returns over the last five years from 2017 to 2021. Its findings include that the number of foster care households in Scotland continued to decrease. At 31 December 2021, there were 3,415 approved foster care households, down 3.5% from 3,540 in 2020.

[Quality Framework for children and young people in need of care and protection](#)

The Care Inspectorate's Quality Framework has been refreshed. They have amended the framework to reflect the:

- language and principles of The Promise - the national guidance for child protection in Scotland (2021)
- principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and quality Indicator 10 – capacity for Improvement has been expanded.

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['School talked only about care leavers going to prison'](#)

The BBC report that just 13% of care leavers enter higher education by their 19th birthday, compared with 45% of the wider population, the government says. It aims to double this.

[£60m for disabled children in first year of new Scottish benefit](#)

The latest official figures from Social Security Scotland show the families of nearly 44,000 children and young people were receiving Child Disability Payment in September this year.

[Sheriff confirms new timeline for Lanarkshire baby deaths FAI](#)

A fatal accident inquiry into the deaths of three babies in Lanarkshire is expected to start next year.

[Sibling Experiences of Adverse Childhood Experiences](#)

A scoping review that aimed to understand what is currently known about the experiences of siblings living with adverse childhood experiences.

[Embedding Children's Rights in Scotland: Scottish Position Statement](#)

A report setting out the progress made in relation to children's rights in Scotland since 2016.

[Children's Rights Strategic Litigation Toolkit](#)

A toolkit that explains the Children & Young People's Commissioner Scotland's powers, how children and young people are involved in strategic litigation and the principles that underpin this work.

[The 'Virtuous' Cycle of Parental Empowerment: Partnering with Parents to Safeguard Young People from Exploitation](#)

A paper exploring how professionals can work effectively with parents to safeguard young people from child sexual exploitation when it manifests as a form of extrafamilial harm and in situations where parents/carers are not the primary source of risk or harm.

[Role of the Reporter](#)

A suite of information materials about the role of the Children's Reporter.

[Why language matters: reframing responsibility for accessing services](#)

NSPCC Learning has published the latest in a series of blogs on the importance of the language used in safeguarding and child protection. It explores the challenges around the use of the phrase 'hard to reach' and looks at how a change of language can more clearly place the responsibility for service engagement and access on the service providers, not the service users.

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Disability, Autism, ADHD & Learning Difficulties

[Use of Teletherapy for Allied Health Interventions in Community-Based Disability Services](#)

A scoping review of user perspectives of teletherapy in delivery of allied health interventions to the disability community.

[What have we learned about the experience of disabled people?](#)

Helen Colvin and Josephine Foubert from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) look at some of the work they have been doing recently to give insight into the lives of disabled children and adults.

[New film highlights barriers women with learning disabilities face when reporting sexual violence](#)

A new film, Us Too: Alisha's Story, highlights the experiences of women with learning disabilities when reporting sexual violence.

[Autistic man had human rights infringed due to lack of support, Ombudsman finds](#)

Bradford council's failure to provide support to an autistic man has put his employment, family life and sense of self at risk, the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman has found.

[Living 'with TBI' as Complex Embodiment](#)

A paper that explores how moderate-to-severe traumatic brain injuries become disabilities through the daily lives and interactions of survivors, those closest to them, and their wider communities.

Mental Health

[The Mental Health Tribunal for Scotland: The Views and Experiences of Patients, Named Persons, Practitioners and Mental Health Tribunal for Scotland Members](#)

A report on research that presents a range of views and experiences of Mental Health Tribunal for Scotland processes and decision-making from a purposive sample of stakeholders including panel members, health and social care professionals, patients and named persons.

Adults, Older People & Dementia

[Dementia in People with Severe/Profound Intellectual \(and Multiple\) Disabilities](#)

A study that aimed to identify the applicability of dementia screening instruments for people with intellectual disabilities.

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Carers

[Inequalities in Unpaid Carer's Health, Employment Status and Social Isolation](#)

A study that investigated the mental and physical health, social isolation, employment status and earnings outcomes of providing care for 10 or more hours a week in interaction with people's socio-demographic characteristics.

[Scottish Carer's Assistance: Consultation Analysis](#)

An independent analysis of responses to the Scottish Carer's Assistance consultation.

[New carers continue to face financial crisis](#)

A leading carers' organisation is marking Carers Rights Day by publishing data showing hundreds of thousands of people in the Scotland are finding themselves taking on the role of unpaid carer each year.

[Inquiry: Social work systems "exhausting" for carers](#)

A national inquiry into unpaid carers' experience of social work and social care services has revealed major barriers to accessing, understanding and navigating 'cumbersome' systems, leaving the majority feeling unsupported to continue caring

Housing & Homelessness

[Housing: Tens of thousands of homes unsafe, Michael Gove says](#)

Tens of thousands of homes are "not in the state they should be", Housing Secretary Michael Gove has said. His comments come after [a coroner ruled](#) the death of toddler Awaab Ishak was caused by exposure to mould at home.

[Glasgow Overnight Welcome Centre Open](#)

Glasgow City Mission opened its Overnight Welcome Centre (OWC) on November 30th. There are multiple arrangements in place with partners in Glasgow to access a range of emergency beds throughout the city.

Substance Use & Addictions

[Minimum Unit Pricing reducing alcohol consumption](#)

Minimum Unit Pricing (MUP) "is achieving one of its key aims" according to Ministers after a new report concluded that it has been effective in cutting alcohol consumption.

Looking at the first three years since introduction, new research by Public Health Scotland and Glasgow University has concluded that the policy is reducing overall sales.

[Effects of Media Representations of Drug Related Deaths on Public Stigma and Support for Harm Reduction](#)

A study that investigated whether the characterisation of decedents represented in news articles about drug related deaths was associated with differences in stigmatising attitudes and support for harm reduction policy.

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[Scottish Government publishes National Mission on Drugs Annual Report 2021 - 2022](#)

Official report on progress since the announcement of the National Mission to Reduce Drug Deaths January 2021 – March 2022.

[Drug and Alcohol Services - Co-Occurring Substance Use and Mental Health Concerns](#)

A literature and evidence review, and the findings from a survey of service providers, carried out as part of a rapid review of co-occurring substance use and mental health concerns in Scotland.

Equality & Poverty

[Deprivation and Cancer Inequalities in Scotland](#)

Cancer Research UK has launched a landmark new report highlighting the “unacceptable” health inequalities facing cancer patients in Scotland. The charity found that around 4,900 extra cancer cases a year are linked to deprivation in Scotland, which equates to around 13 avoidable cancer cases a day. Cancer death rates are 74% higher in the most deprived communities than the least deprived in Scotland.

[The Assault of Austerity](#)

An Oxfam briefing paper that argues that prevailing economic policy choices, embodied by governments' use of austerity measures, are a form of gender-based violence.

[Inside Scotland's widening health inequalities](#)

Two reports from the review are now fully published by the University of Glasgow's MRC/CSO Social and Public Health Sciences Unit and the University of Strathclyde's FAI and, here we look at some of the key conclusions and perspectives of the lead researchers in each.

Gender Based Violence

[Domestic Abuse Recorded by the Police in Scotland, 2021-22](#)

A statistical report outlining the characteristics of victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse incidents recorded by the police in Scotland in 2021 to 2022.

[We Can Talk About Domestic Abuse](#)

This report presents findings from a pilot evaluation of the We Can Talk About Domestic Abuse (WCTADA) programme, an initiative designed and delivered by the Wirral Council. The programme aims to develop new ways of working to improve the experience of social care processes for those parents and children affected by domestic abuse so that they feel believed, supported and empowered, whilst being appropriately safeguarded.

Refugees, Asylum, Trafficking and Immigration

[Call for volunteers to host displaced people from Ukraine](#)

People across Scotland are being asked to consider if they could open their homes and unoccupied properties to displaced people from Ukraine as part of two new campaigns to find new hosts.

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[Evaluating the No Recourse Early Action Model \(NOREAM\)](#)

The [model](#) aims to prevent migrant families from experiencing destitution by assisting them to progress across key support domains relating to housing security, immigration status, income and employment, as well as health, care and wellbeing.

[Voices: The Community Story](#)

An oral history project collecting stories on the theme of migration from people across Scotland. These stories will be preserved in archives for generations to come.

[How world events have led to rising immigration](#)

Here Jay Lindop examines the impact of these events and looks ahead to what the future holds for international migration estimates.

Crime, Justice & Prisons

[Deaths in Scottish prisons at record high](#)

A report, by academics at Glasgow University, shows there have been 121 deaths since the start of 2020, with suicide and drugs deaths on the rise. The rate of suicide and drugs deaths in Scottish jails is significantly higher than in England, the report said.

[A review of the applications to Mother and Baby Units in prisons](#)

Thematic review of characteristics and family histories of women who applied to Mother and Baby Units (MBUs) in prisons.

[Forensic Network Annual Report](#)

The Forensic Network continues to support developments and initiatives influencing patient care across the forensic estate.

Social Care, Practice & Workforce Matters

[Chronologies in Adult Support and Protection - share your views](#)

Chronologies are a recurring challenge in Adult Support and Protection, and they have been raised as an area for improvement. IRISS is conducting a scoping exercise on behalf of the Scottish Government to understand the current challenges faced by social services practitioners and their partners around this issue.

IRISS have designed a survey as part of this scoping research to gather the views and experiences of those involved in developing, contributing to or working with chronologies in ASP. The survey is open to social services practitioners, ASP partners including people who work in health, police, or voluntary sectors. Your responses will help inform improvement support for chronologies. Please complete the survey by **22nd December 2022**.

If you have questions about the survey or scoping project, please contact: Andreea Bocioaga, (ASP Lead) andreea.bocioaga@iriss.org.uk or Ellen Daly (Development Lead) ellen.daly@iriss.org.uk

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[Mapping National Adult Social Care and Care Home Data Sources in Scotland](#)

A high-level baseline national summary of both adult social care data and care home data sources in Scotland.

[Working effectively with men](#)

A new Research in Practice podcast series explores the journey of Leeds City Council in developing services that successfully support men. The first episode reflects on their journey, shares examples of positive practice with fathers, and provides advice for social workers looking to work more effectively.

Online & Financial Harm

[CyberScotland Bulletin December 2022](#)

Designed to provide you with information about the latest threats, scams, news and updates covering cyber security and cyber resilience topics.

[Trading Standards Scotland Bulletin 8 December](#)

Latest edition of the Scam Share bulletin.

[UKSIC Insider Newsletter - November 2022](#)

Latest stories and updates from the three partners in the UKSIC: Childnet International, The IWF (Internet Watch Foundation), and SWGfL (South West Grid for Learning).

Events