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Dear Colleague,

Thank you for taking this time to read the first bulletin of 2026, and indeed the first bulletin since August 2025!

In our last bulletin, it was noted that would be suspended until the vacancies of Lead Officer and Senior Development Officer had been filled. I am pleased to announce that we now have in post Claire McCaffrey as Lead Officer, and Kirsty Rogers as Senior Development Officer.

This bulletin is slightly shorter than usual, but the Committee Team are keen to have the bulletin up and running more frequently again. Newsletters will remain at every quarter, the bulletin will be monthly to start with, moving to fortnightly in 3 months time. Moving forward, the responsibility of the Newsletter and Bulletin will lie with the Senior Development Officer.

If you have something new to share or publicise that might be of interest to our subscribers, then please do not hesitate to email [Public Protection Committees Team](#).

Colin Anderson
Independent Chair

Child Protection Committee and Adult Support and Protection Committee

Child Protection and working with Children

<https://www.childprotection.scot/publication/learning-about-neglect-event-series-webinar-5-working-with-families-where-engagement-is-a-challenge-a-trauma-informed-approach/> Learning About Neglect Event Series – Webinar 5: Working with families where engagement is a challenge (Child Protection

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Scotland) Focus: Trauma-informed approaches to working with families where neglect is a concern and engagement with services is difficult. Part of a national series supported by CELCIS and the Scottish Government, aimed at child protection leaders and practitioners across Scotland.

<https://www.childprotection.scot/publication/neglect-indicators-paper-and-blog> Child Protection Scotland updated paper (from 2024), with CELCIS, have developed an updated paper continues the aim to provide a means of measuring (and subsequently monitoring) neglect at the population level in Scotland. Smaller indicators have also been introduced.

[Developing your trauma skilled practice - SSSC Learning Zone](#) The National Trauma Training Programme (NTP) have released a new interactive e-module for anyone working with children and young people who may have been affected by traumatic events.

<https://cpldirectory.elc.sssc.uk.com/> National learning resources for children and young people professionals (SSSC CPL) Focus:

Adult Protection and Working with Adults

[National framework for Adult Support and Protection learning and development in Scotland: Seven-minute briefing | Iriss](#) This is a seven-minute briefing of the first national multi-agency framework for Adult Support and Protection learning and development

[Adult social care support and community health: draft Scottish learning and improvement framework - gov.scot](#) - A draft Scottish learning and improvement framework for adult social care support and community health (SLIF) to support an approach to improvement which builds on learning, manages quality, and will track improvement through the outcomes that matter to people.

<https://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/nes-current/international-recruitment-into-adult-social-care> Due to workforce shortages, there is currently an international drive for recruitment.

<https://www.healthandcare.scot/stories/4316/cosla-local-authoriities-scotland-social-care-funding-holyrood-election> Due to workforce shortages in children

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services and social care services are at a critical level. Local Authorities and COLSA are calling for an immediate £750m cash injection.

[Part 7: A Discussion on Hidden Harm in Later Life. Followed by a Q&A.](#) A YouTube Video from the Safer Ageing Summit (December 2025), looking at later in life hidden harm with Dame Nichole Jacobs (Commissioner for Domestic Abuse in England and Wales)

Dementia

[\(UK Government Backs £2 Million Dementia Tech Project Led by Scottish Consortium | PMG News\)](#) A major new initiative backed by the UK Government is supporting a £2 million technology programme led by a Scottish consortium (Heriot-Watt University, University of Strathclyde, Age Scotland and NHS partners).

[Our Key Deliverables - Dementia strategy: initial 2-year delivery plan - 2024 to 2026 - gov.scot](#) Dementia in Scotland: Initial 2-Year Delivery Plan (2024–2026)

This delivery plan outlines the first phase of implementing the national strategy.

Criminal Justice

[Scotland's Community Custody Units for Women Praised but Researchers Warn Reform Needed to Stop Them Being 'Mini Prisons' - SCCJR](#) A new report into Community Custody Units has painted a mixed picture with positive feedback from women about their accommodation and access to health care while also raising concerns over staff training and how aligned the current units are with their original remit.

[Social-Work-in-Justice-Services-checked-18.06.24.pdf](#) Social Work in justice settings: ideal for NQSW and their CPL

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/02645505251337442> This Journal raises some reflections for practice: In Scotland the role of the 'probation officer' must be undertaken by qualified social workers, called justice social workers. This journal article maps Scotland's journey to professional registration of justice social workers, the opportunities and challenges registration criteria presents for the workforce, and possible tensions between core aims of public protection, strengthening the workforce and public confidence.

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Contextual Safeguarding

[Comment on apparent rise in children being accused of attempted murder in Scotland - SCCJR](#) The Scottish Police Authority (SPA) prepared a [report](#) for Police Scotland in September 2025, which revealed there were 17 attempted murder cases involving 20 children between April and June this year.

<https://www.cycj.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Edinburghs-Contextual-Safeguarding-Pilot-Evaluation-Report.pdf>

As this pilot is from 2023, it is worth noting that the report focuses on rolling out the implementation and understanding of CS. Please note that “level two” of the implementation had not occurred at this time so there is no data into the long term impact of the pilot.

[The Gender Gap | CareKnowledge](#) This briefing explores online safety through the lens of gender. It examines the similarities and contrasts between boys’ and girls’ online lives, and the different actions parents take to support and safeguard them.

[The Wise Men meet Graeme Armstrong - YouTube](#) In this video, Graeme talks openly about this, about his use of alcohol and drugs, and the impact of this upon him and his family and friends. He is interviewed about how he changed his life, and the film also explores the differences and similarities between Graeme’s youth and the challenges for young people growing up in similar communities today. This film is part of the SCCJR's Straight Out the Scheme: Youth Work Resource.

Domestic violence

[Non-fatal strangulation \(NFS\) | NHS inform](#) an NHS inform on Non- Fatal Strangulation and symptoms of NFS.

[How can people who work with children recognise if a child is experiencing domestic abuse?](#) A youtube video on how those working with Children may spot some of the potential signs of domestic abuse.

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