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Public Protection Bulletin 29th May 2025

Dear colleague,

The Committees Team is currently conducting its annual evaluation of the bulletin. In order to ensure that the bulletin meets the needs of our readers in Glasgow, we have included a link to our [annual short survey](#) so that you can tell us what you think of the bulletin and how it could be improved. We would very much appreciate it if you would take 5 minutes to complete it.

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 & Dementia

[Too Little, Too Late: Experiences of Income Adequacy in Later Life](#)

This short report from Independent Age explores whether the current pension and social security system is working adequately for older people.

[Safeguarding Vulnerable Claimants](#)

A report for the House of Commons, Work and Pensions Committee which details the findings from the re-opened inquiry from October 2024 which explored if DWP should make any changes to the support it provided to vulnerable claimants, and how it had learnt from mistakes and failures.

[Living Better with Dementia Through Care and Support: It's Not Rocket Science](#)

A report from International Longevity Centre which argues that better post-diagnostic support, greater investment in prevention and a shift to community-based care could help people live better for longer with dementia, while easing pressure on hospitals, carers and overstretched services.

[Effects of Clutter or Hoarding on People Affected by It](#)

A blog from the Hoarding Taskforce on the effects of clutter.

[Care Poverty and Unmet Needs: Inequalities in Theory and Practice](#)

As populations age around the world, there is an urgent need to address inadequate provision of care for older and disabled people. This book is the first collective effort to use the concept of care poverty to analyse inequalities in care at an international level and from a social policy perspective

Carers

[The Impact of Caring on Housing](#)

This report from Carers UK is based on data from the Carers UK State of Caring survey - the UK's most comprehensive regular research into the lives and experiences of unpaid carers.

Children, Young People & Families

[National Hub for Reviewing and Learning from the Death of Children and Young People Data Release](#)

Following publication of its data overview report in March 2024, the National Hub has published their first, annual data release, which summarises child death data from National Records of Scotland (NRS) from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 and compares it to historic data by financial year from 1 April 2019.

[Early Child Development Scotland 2023 to 2024](#)

This release by Public Health Scotland (PHS) provides an update on children's development as assessed during the 13th-15th month, 27th-30th month, and 4th-5th year child health reviews. The latest information presented comes from reviews provided to children becoming eligible for review between April 2023 and March 2024.

[Scottish Journal of Residential Child Care Vol 24 No 1](#)

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In the spring 2025 issue, there is a wide range of original research articles, shorter articles and book reviews from across the globe and on a wide variety of topics linked to residential childcare.

Baby Steps

Baby Steps is a free, supportive programme from the NSPCC for expectant parents facing additional challenges. The nine-session group offers tailored guidance on pregnancy, birth, and early parenting. Covering topics from baby development to self-care, it builds confidence and prepares parents for their new journey.

SARCS – Animations for Children Experiencing Medical Examinations

The SARCS Network has published two videos aimed at children and young people who have disclosed child sexual abuse and have been referred for a child forensic medical examination (CFME). There are videos for [younger children \(pre-pubescent\)](#) and [older children \(adolescent\)](#).

County Lines Training

This online course from NSPCC will give you the knowledge you need to recognise the signs and indicators of county lines exploitation and respond appropriately.

Family Group Conferences in Practice

Foundations has published a report outlining how an evidence-based model of family-led decision making can contribute to keeping children and young people out of care, based on evidence from local authorities across England.

Why Language Matters: How We Talk About Sibling Sexual Behaviour and Abuse

NSPCC Learning has published a blog exploring the use of language by professionals around sibling sexual abuse.

Children's Hearings - Information for Parents/Carers

This updated leaflet for parents/carers includes information on being a Relevant Person, what happens at a Hearing and what decisions can be made. It also includes information about how to get help and support.

A Short Summary of Secure Care in Scotland

This short information briefing from Children and Young People's Centre for Justice (CYCJ) provides an overview of the current landscape of secure accommodation in Scotland.

Youth Services in the UK

A report from the House of Commons Library providing an overview of youth services; the statutory duties and policy in different parts of the UK as well as a summary of some of research into the impacts of youth work.

Rethinking 'Disguised Compliance' in Child Protection Practice

This article presents a few key considerations from Community Care Inform Children's guide on understanding 'disguised compliance' and how to apply a relationship-based approach to removing barriers to parental engagement.

Mind The Kids Podcast

The Association for Child and Adolescent Mental Health (ACAMH) has launched 'Mind the Kids', a new podcast series featuring accessible expert discussions on a range of vital topics for those working with children and young people.

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Crime, Justice and Prisons

[Understanding Family Support Needs of People in Prison Custody](#)

This report from the Scottish Government presents findings from a review of support needs of families of people in custody. It also includes reflection opportunities with people in custody, families, prison staff and key stakeholders to better understand the issues surrounding families affected by imprisonment.

Disability, Learning Difficulties & Neurodiversity

[Autism Spectrum Disorder and Mental Disorders](#)

A presentation from NHSGGC Adult Autism Team which was presented to the Mental Health Officer forum in relation to Autism Spectrum Disorder and mental disorder.

[Playback Translation Service for the Blind and Visually Impaired](#)

The Playback Recording Service for the blind and visually impaired which was established in 1976. They are able to offer a transcription service for written information converted to audio for visually impaired people, individuals or businesses.

Education

[Pupil Equity Funding 2025 Report](#)

This latest report from Education Scotland deepens the understanding of how Pupil Equity Funding is improving outcomes for children and young people impacted by poverty, with a focus on tackling the poverty-related attainment gap.

[Preventing and Managing Infection in Childcare and Education Settings and What This Means in Practice](#)

The Health and Social Care Improvement Team (HSCIT) hosted a webinar for ELC and children's services about how to prevent and manage infection in childcare and education settings. The webinar included practical guidance about standard IPC procedures and explored the role of the health protection teams and how they can help. You can now watch the recording.

Equality & Poverty

[Energy Price Cap to Fall 7% in July](#)

British households will see a modest drop in energy costs this summer after Ofgem announced a 7% cut to the energy price cap, reducing average annual bills by £129 to £1,720.

[A Divided Kingdom](#)

This report from Intergenerational England lays out a vision for a fairer, more resilient society by embedding intergenerational practice across sectors, from education and housing to health and workforce.

Events & Courses

[Keeping Trauma in Mind Webinar - Various Dates - 4pm-5.30pm](#)

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The 'Keeping Trauma in Mind' programme of 5 twilight sessions will provide educators from all sectors with an opportunity to understand the impact of trauma and develop trauma responsive strategies to support children and young people affected by psychological trauma. Delegates will gain most benefit from attending all 5 sessions and will have access to presentations and opportunities to network with educators from across Scotland. The sessions will be led by Education Scotland.

[Housing - Your Rights and Options - Various Dates - Online](#)

These information sessions from The Scottish Refugee Council offer information and advice to people struggling to secure settled accommodation after being granted refugee status. Sessions will be held in English, Arabic, Kurdish Sorani, Tigrinya and Farsi.

[Forced Marriage Online Workshops - Various Dates](#)

The Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) is running a series of free on-line workshops for social care practitioners, police officers and registration staff. Further information about the sessions and registration details can be found on the Eventbrite page.

[Protection Orders in Scotland: Legal Landscape Agency & Choice Webinar - 30/05/2025 - 10am-12noon](#)

In collaboration with the University of Glasgow, VAW services within NRS, GCC are hosting an event to consider the complex issues surrounding protection orders. The event will provide an overview of the range of Protective orders, will focus on the use of non-harassment orders, considering issues such as consistency of how orders are drafted, responses to breaches, how orders interact with child contact decision making, and whether such orders should be mandatory.

[Bridging the Sciences: New Approaches to Child Protection Conference - 02/06/2025-03/06/2025 - Online](#)

Childlight, in partnership with the International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC) and Emory University, is assembling some of the world's leading authorities for the event in Atlanta to promote fresh thinking to tackle this hidden pandemic.

[Tackling Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation \(CSAE\) in Scotland Conference - 03/06/2025 - 9.15am-1.30pm - Online](#)

Holyrood Insight's new Tackling Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (CSAE) Conference will bring together colleagues from across Scotland to discuss local and national priorities for identifying and tackling abuse. Experts from education, policing, local councils, and the third sector will share practical takeaways to improve your approach to child protection. Understand how to strengthen coordination between agencies, through better data sharing, and clear roles and responsibilities for those working to tackle child sexual abuse. Please note that there is a cost to attend this event.

[Scottish Children's Reporter Administration \(SCRA\) Induction Webinar - 11/06/2025 - 10am-12noon - MS Teams](#)

This webinar is for professionals who work alongside the children's hearing system. It will introduce you to the children's hearing system, the process of referrals to SCRA and the principles upon which the system operates. The webinar will further progress to guiding your understanding of making a referral to SCRA and factors which you should consider when doing so. There is also a [Guide to Referral to the Children's Reporter](#).

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[Children & Young People's Centre for Justice \(CYCJ\): National Youth Justice Conference 2025 - 11/06/25-12/06/25 - Stirling](#)

CYCJ's National Youth Justice conference takes place in Stirling on June 11 and 12, 2025 and the theme is 'Childhood, Safeguarding and the Children's Hearing System'. They have some excellent keynote speakers lined up who will help to explore complex practice issues such as Contextual Safeguarding and Child Criminal Exploitation. With significant reforms to the Children's Hearing System already underway, CYCJ will address some of the challenges and opportunities when it comes to supporting children in conflict with the law. Please note that there is a cost to attend this event.

[Understand, Communicate & Resolve: An Early Intervention Aid to Preventing, Managing and Resolving Conflict within Families - 12/06/2025 - 10am-4pm - Stirling](#)

This training from The Scottish Centre for Conflict Resolution will give participants the opportunity to self-reflect and understand some of the dynamics of conflict within relationships. The training supports the overall aim of the SCCR – to contribute to reducing the risk of youth homelessness through improving relationships and reducing family conflict.

[Social Work with Adults: Supporting individuals, families, and communities conference - 12/06/2025 - Glasgow](#)

This conference from Social Work Scotland seeks to overturn the perception that social work with adults is a siloed area of practice. They will instead be profiling the interconnected nature of adult social work, across all professional operational fields, examining its opportunities and challenges. Please note that there is a cost to attend this event.

[Facilitating Disclosures of Selling Sex - 12/06/2025 - 9.30am-12.00noon - Zoom](#)

To increase the skills and confidence of frontline practitioners in managing disclosures of selling or exchanging sex, CSE Aware is offering a free training which will cover the following topics:

- Barriers and motivators regarding women's disclosures of selling or exchanging sex
- Challenges faced by workers in facilitating these disclosures
- Key considerations for managing disclosures
- Next steps: addressing women's support needs.

[Supporting People Who Hoard: Trauma, Empathy and Co-operation Webinar - 18/06/2025 - 10am-12noon](#)

In this webinar, Care Knowledge look past a person's 'hoard' and the immediate problems it may present to develop an understanding of how trauma and other underlying factors can explain why someone might be hoarding. The session will consider the significance of the transference of value to inanimate objects or in some cases animals and ask whether our responses acknowledge the distress someone might feel if separated from them. Through a series of three conversations with Professor Nick Neave, Heather Matuozzo and Kayley Hyman, this webinar seeks to provide deep insight to what hoarding looks and feels like, leaving you with a clear understanding of what's stake, and how typical responses to it are both ineffective and often damaging. Please note that this is a free event; however, you will be required to register with Care Knowledge.

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[The Minimum Age of Criminal Responsibility: An International Medico-Legal Perspective - 30/06/2025 - 12noon-1pm - MS Teams](#)

In this webinar, Dr Delmage, an adolescent forensic psychiatrist and honorary senior lecturer based in Ngā Taiohi, a secure inpatient service for young people, and is based in Porirua, New Zealand, will discuss the international picture and the numerous variations in approach to criminal responsibility in children, with some brief thinking about where these variations come from. He will consider various countries' management of those under the MACR and will include some thoughts about the future. He will also cover some of the economic outcomes, whilst acknowledging that these outcomes are extraordinarily hard to measure in a meaningful fashion.

[Relationships and Behaviour in Schools Conference Scotland - 17/09/2025 - 9.30am-3.00pm - Edinburgh](#)

The Relationships and Behaviour in Schools National Action Plan 2024-2027 sets out a series of actions that school leaders can take to respond to an increase in disruptive behaviour. Join Holyrood Insight's *Relationships and Behaviour in Schools Scotland* Conference to hear from leaders and experts on new approaches to tackle and respond to disruptive behaviour. Please note that there is a cost to attend this event.

[Hourglass Conference 2025 - The Safer Ageing Summit - 12/11/2025 - Edinburgh](#)

The Hourglass 2025 Conference is **The Safer Ageing Summit**—a crucial meeting place for experts, policymakers, and professionals from across the sector to share knowledge, discuss challenges, and drive real change. Please note that there is a cost to attend this event.

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 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:

[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 be 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:

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- 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. **Please ensure that you provide an email address for at least one attendee so that you can be send the pre and post-course materials.**

Dates are as follows:

[16th June 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.

Dates are as follows:

[4th June 2025](#)

Please ensure that you provide an email address for at least one attendee so that you can be send the pre and post-course materials.

Multi-Agency Briefing: Child Protection Committee (CPC)

As part of the Getting to Know Your Governance Campaign, the Public Protection Committees Team invites you to attend a Multi-Agency Briefing on Glasgow City Child Protection Committee. The session will be delivered over MS Teams.

Participants will:

- Understand the role and functions of Child Protection Committees
- Understand the interface between Child Protection Committees and operational practice
- Understand the structure and membership of Glasgow Child Protection Committee
- Understand the aims and objectives of Glasgow Child Protection Committee

Sign up for the following dates:

[Thursday 29th May 2025 - 10am-11am - MS Teams](#)

Multi-Agency Briefing: Adult Support and Protection Committee (ASPC)

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As part of the Getting to Know Your Governance Campaign, the Public Protection Committees Team invites you to attend a Multi-Agency Briefing on Glasgow City Adult Support and Protection Committee. The session will be delivered over MS Teams.

Participants will:

- understand the role and functions of Adult Protection Committees
- understand the interface between Adult Protection Committees and operational practice
- understand the structure and membership of Glasgow City Adult Support and Protection Committee
- understand the aims and objectives of Glasgow City Adult Support and Protection Committee

Sign up for the following dates:

[3rd June 2025 - 10am-11am](#)

Learning Review Themes Multi-Agency Webinar

In 2024, the Public Protection Committees Team completed a scoping exercise of Learning Reviews, the multi-agency process for learning lessons where children and adults have been significantly harmed or died in a child protection or adult protection context, published between 2019 and 2023.

Several common themes were identified across reviews for children and young people and adults. This webinar presents the findings from the attached report and provides an opportunity for multi-agency discussions about how best to respond to the findings.

Sign up for the following dates:

[5th June 2025 - 10.00am-11.30am - MS Teams](#)

Gender Based Violence & Exploitation

[Testing Scotland's Proposed Domestic Homicide and Suicide Review Model: Phase One Report and Scottish Government Report](#)

A summary of the findings from phase one of the testing of Scotland's proposed national Domestic Homicide and Suicide Review Model, and the Scottish Government response to the findings.

[Targeting Girls Online: How Online Services Enable the Abuse and Harassment of Girls](#)

This report from NSPCC examines how online services and platforms can be used by perpetrators to identify young female users and target abuse at them. Abusive communication can take the form of sexual harassment, technology-assisted child sexual abuse, bullying, threats and hate speech.

[Imagine a Scotland Where We Are Equally Safe: A Focus on Public Protection and Violence Against Women and Girls \(VAWG\)](#)

As part of 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence 2024, the Scottish Government and COSLA hosted a national event bringing together stakeholders working across different areas of public protection. The event aimed to explore where there are opportunities to work together collaboratively to strengthen links in public protection, in order to better support outcomes for women, children and young

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people who have experienced, or are at risk of experiencing, VAWG. This report outlines the discussions and learning from the event.

[Equally Safe Online](#)

Equally Safe Online is an interdisciplinary, collaborative project where social science meets Machine Learning and NLP. Experts in safeguarding, violence against women and girls (VAWG), and digital education from the University of Edinburgh School of Informatics, School of Social and Political Science (SPS), and the School of Education are working with computer scientists at Heriot-Watt University (HW) to build a user bot for prevention, intervention, and support in online gender-based violence (OGBV), with the project scope being discourse-based OGBV on social media platforms.

Health and Social Care

[Myth Busting: Compassion in Crisis](#)

An updated report from Scottish Care which aims to dispel common misconceptions about the independent care sector. The report provides evidence-based insights into current sector pressures and highlights the reality facing providers and staff delivering vital services in communities across the country.

[National Care Service Factsheet](#)

The Scottish Government has published a factsheet outlining how they plan to move forward with the National Care Service in 2025 and beyond.

[An Overview of Health Inequalities in Scotland: The Collaboration for Health Equity in Scotland](#)

The Collaboration for Health Equity in Scotland aims to bring about significant change to reduce health inequalities in three of Scotland's local authority areas. This introductory report overviews widening health inequalities in Scotland and also highlights health inequalities within the above-mentioned CHES collaborating places.

[Unlocking the Power of Proactive and Preventative Care Services](#)

The Association of Directors of Adult Social Care Services (ADASS) and the TEC Services Association (TSA) have co-produced a free, practical blueprint to help councils plan, implement and scale digital preventative services, titled. 'Unlocking the Power of Proactive and Preventative Care Services' - A practical blueprint for planning, implementing and scaling up.

[UK Mortality Trends and International Comparisons](#)

This briefing from the Health Foundation compares trends in mortality within the UK and with 21 high-income countries. The briefing looks at overall male and female trends in mortality, differences between UK nations and regions, trends across age groups and trends in specific causes of death. It concludes by considering actions that the UK government could take to begin to address these challenges.

Housing & Homelessness

[Poverty - Statistics on Housing](#)

The Scottish Government has published additional poverty analysis statistics for 2025 covering issues in relation to housing.

Mental Health & Trauma

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[Mental Capacity Report - May 2025](#)

39 Essex Chambers' monthly reports on aspects of mental capacity law in the UK.

[Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland: New reports - May 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:

- [Gartnavel Royal Hospital - Timbury and Cuthbertson Ward](#)
- [West of Scotland Mother and Baby Unit, Leverndale Hospital](#)
- [Leverndale Hospital - Ward 4A and 4B](#)

[Podcast: Supporting Black Mothers Facing Perinatal Mental Health Challenges](#)

The latest podcast episode from NSPCC discusses the link between perinatal mental health and infant mental health, why Black mothers are more likely to experience perinatal mental health issues and how The Motherhood Group supports Black mothers.

[Growing Up Well: Ambitions for the Future of Children and Young People's Mental Health Support](#)

This report from Centre for Young Lives examines the policy and practice landscape at a national and local level for children and young people's mental health support. It looks at national policy, before examining the role of Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) in planning and managing children and young people's mental health services in their area, including a deep dive into their spending.

[National Review of Higher Education Student Suicide Deaths](#)

The findings of a national review of higher education student suicide deaths conducted by the National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health (NCISH). This report was published by the Department for Education in England.

[What if a conversation about suicide could save a life?](#)

Suicide Prevention Scotland has launched a new campaign about normalising the idea of talking about suicide - and giving people the confidence to do so. They have created a short video.

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 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.](#)

[Online Harm: Advice and Resources for Professionals](#)

Children First have worked with young people to create a series of animations for social work, teachers, police, parents and carers to help them better understand how children want them to respond to online harm.

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[Cyber Security Alert: Online Sexual Exploitation](#)

Police Scotland has issued a cyber security alert in relation to the National Cyber Security Centre receiving nearly 3000 reports relating to reports of online extortion from the public.

Practice, Organisation & Workforce Matters

[Exploring the Impact of Work-Related Stress and Professional Wellbeing with Practitioners in Homes for Children](#)

This article examines experiences of staff wellbeing in children's homes and considers how staff wellbeing influences the care children receive. The study highlights the importance of a supportive work environment, including regular supervision, professional development, and access to mental health resources in enhancing the resilience and reducing the turnover of staff.

[New Visa Rules Could Have a Catastrophic Impact on Care Sector](#)

An article from Healthcare Scotland which highlights the potential impact of the new visa rules on the impact on the care sector in Scotland.

[Changing the Script on Social Work](#)

This guide from Social Work England provides information and practical suggestions for how to tell an accurate story of social work; one that recognises the positive impact social workers have on millions of people's lives.

[Responding to Low Level Concerns About Staff or Volunteers](#)

Low-level concerns are any concerns or doubts that a staff member or volunteer may have acted in a way that conflicts with the standards of your organisation. The NSPCC has issued guidance to help organisations to understand the importance of recording low-level concerns, and how your organisation can create a safe culture where the safety of children is always prioritised.

[Sensible Sharing: Safeguarding Scottish Advocacy Independence Through Data Sharing Practices](#)

The Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance has published a position paper on safeguarding advocacy independence through data sharing best practice, which argues that independent advocacy can only be high quality if it remains wholly independent, without any compromise from commissioners and funders.

[Cultural Humility Digital Resource](#)

The Cultural Humility digital resource has been created in collaboration with NHS Education for Scotland Equality, Diversity, and Human Rights Team and several partners across health, social care, and the third sector to support the development of positive cultural humility values and behaviours across the health and social care workforce. These are designed to support learners to increase their understanding of different cultures and backgrounds and develop their skills to engage in respectful and meaningful interactions for patients and staff across the country.

[A New National Induction Framework for Adult Social Care](#)

The National Induction Framework: Social Care is the result of a collaborative project between NHS Education for Scotland (NES) Social Care Directorate and the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC). It's a programme of learning for all workers across adult social care in Scotland who are taking up a new support worker or practitioner role. It provides learners with a foundation of knowledge that is relevant to their role,

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through accessible eLearning courses and learning materials which will be completed flexibly during their induction period.

[SSSC Registration Dashboard](#)

This online resource provides information on the numbers of people registered with the SSSC, the number of removals from the SSSC register and responses to the leavers survey.

[Code of Practice for the International Recruitment of Health and Social Care Personnel in Scotland](#)

An updated revision of the code of practice for the international recruitment of health and social care personnel in Scotland to ensure ethical recruitment.

Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Immigration

[Refused Asylum and Appeal Rights Exhausted: What's Next?](#)

The Scottish Refugee Council has launched a new online resource for people who have received a negative asylum decision and have become 'appeal rights exhausted'. The online guide is full of expert information and advice to help people understand their situation and what steps they can take.

Substance Use & Addiction

[A Healthcare Needs Assessment on Gambling Harm](#)

This report from Public Health Scotland estimates the prevalence of gambling harms in Scotland and maps the service provision and demand for services. It also draws on the views of people living in Scotland who have experienced gambling harms or work in services to support those who do and compares these findings to evidence from England and Wales.

[Substance Use and Mental Ill Health: From Fragmentation to Integration?](#)

The briefing from the Centre for Mental Health explores several significant barriers faced by people seeking support for mental health and substance use problems. It finds that these co-occurring challenges often lead to stigma, discrimination, and fragmented care, particularly for marginalised groups such as homeless people, people from racialised and LGBTQ+ communities, and people in the criminal justice system. The briefing also highlights the need to address systemic issues in services, including a lack of integrated care, insecure funding and workforce shortages.