




Adult and Health



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Covid-19

[Impact statements to be published](#)

The Scottish Covid-19 Inquiry has confirmed it will publish any health and social care impact statements which were not heard in oral evidence. The publication of these statements will coincide with the publication of the Portfolio 3 (health and social care) narrative record.

[UK Covid Inquiry to start hearings on the impact on society](#)

The UK Covid-19 Inquiry will start the first preliminary hearing for the tenth, and final, investigation, focusing on the 'Impact on Society'. The tenth investigation will examine the impact of Covid-19 on the population of the United Kingdom with a particular focus on key workers, the most vulnerable, the bereaved, mental health and wellbeing, and will also seek to identify where societal strengths, resilience and or innovation reduced any adverse impact.



Care Homes/Care at Home

[Survey on size and layout of care homes](#)

The Care Inspectorate is seeking views from people who live in care homes and their families and friends about the size and layout of care homes, to help us understand people's experiences of how different sizes of care home affect daily life. We would really appreciate if you could [complete our form](#). The form will close on 28 February 2025.

Learning Disabilities

[Adults with learning disabilities at higher risk of avoidable death](#)

The Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory at the University of Glasgow has published research showing young adults with learning disabilities are nine times more likely to die from treatable causes, compared to young adults in the general population. The study also found that, for adults of all ages with learning disabilities, the risk of premature mortality is 3 times higher compared with adults in the general population. The most commonly-recorded causes of death which are avoidable and treatable included epilepsy, pneumonia, and conditions including chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and ischaemic heart disease such as myocardial infarction.

Mental Health

[Multi-agency framework for supporting mental health crisis](#)

The Scottish Government has developed the Multi-Agency Partnership Approach to Distress: Framework for Collaboration which sets out a joint approach to supporting individuals experiencing mental health distress or crisis. The Framework is part of the Scottish Government's response to the recommendations of the thematic review of mental health demand on policing and was developed by the cross-sector Partnership Delivery Group which involves the Government, Scottish Police Authority and Police Scotland. The Partnership Delivery Group has also published the [collaborative commitments plan](#), setting out actions across priority themes to improve the multi-agency approach.

Workforce

[Conditions faced by migrant care workers explored in research](#)

A new report by UNISON, titled Caring at a Cost, has shown the conditions faced by care staff who come to the UK from overseas to work. The report is based on findings from a survey by UNISON of more than 3,000 people who have come to the UK on health and care worker visas. Some care staff are having to share beds with other workers, sleep rough, and are forced to pay fees to work because of exploitation.



[Nursing and Midwifery Taskforce final report](#)

The report and recommended actions of the Ministerial Scottish Nursing and Midwifery Taskforce have been published. Recommendations are focused on work environments and working conditions, flexibility and work-life balance policies, career opportunities and access to education, workload and safe staffing, working relationships, professional autonomy, supervision and mentoring and attraction to the sector.

Other Health and Social Care

[Report highlights value of the adult social care sector in Scotland](#)

A report by the UK-wide Skills for Care and Development Alliance (which includes the SSSC as a member) highlights the economic and social value of the adult social care sector in Scotland. Skills for Care and Development commissioned Alma Economics to analyse the sector in the UK as a whole and in each of the four nations using data from 2022/23. The final report shows that for every £1 spent on adult social care, £1.98 in socioeconomic benefits is brought in. The total direct, indirect and induced value of the adult social care sector in Scotland was £5.2 billion.

[Conference on social work with adults – June 2025](#)

Social Work Scotland has announced a new conference on adults social work practice will take place in June. Titled Social work with adults: Support individuals, families and communities, the event will explore how social work with adults is not a siloed area of practice and is interconnected with all professional operational fields. The conference will be held in Glasgow on 12 June.

[GIRFE Team Around the Person toolkit](#)

The ALLIANCE has highlighted the launch of the Getting it Right for Everyone (GIRFE) Team Around the Person Toolkit, developed by pathfinder teams from across Scotland. The toolkit is described as a vital resource to support a more person-centred, consistent and individualised approach to health and social care support and includes principles, tools, guidance and case studies to help professionals across public services in embedding the GIRFE approach.

[Framework for integrated care systems to tackle health inequalities](#) (England)

The Care Quality Commission has developed a self-assessment and improvement framework for integrated care systems, to improve how they address health inequalities. The framework, which is a voluntary resource, aims to tackle inequalities through engagement with people and communities. It is designed to stimulate shared learning and practical action planning at all levels of engagement.



Disclaimer

This weekly bulletin is produced as an update on key developments concerning adults and health related issues.

Each item in the bulletin has a hyperlinked headline that will take the reader to the original source.

We collate items from our parliamentary and Scottish Government monitoring covering health and social care news from throughout the UK, and current research and policy development. We use a variety of sources for the bulletin, including alerts from [Newsdirect](#), [Community Care](#), [Children & Young People Now](#) and [ISD Scotland](#).

We aim to be representative rather than comprehensive, so we try to cover only the main Scottish stories, along with some stories from the rest of the UK. The purpose of the bulletin is to alert readers to items of interest. It should be noted that these items are the works of others and are neither authorised nor endorsed by the Care Inspectorate, with the exception of publications which are identified as Care Inspectorate publications.

It should also be noted that the Care Inspectorate has no liability in respect of the content of external websites which may be signposted in this document.