

Adult
and
Health



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Alcohol and Drugs

[New guidance on alcohol-related brain damage](#)

New guidance aimed at helping professionals treat and care for people with alcohol-related brain damage (ARBD) has been published by the Mental Welfare Commission. The guide provides information on the nature and treatment of ARBD before exploring issues such as legal options, advocacy, assessment of capacity and interventions.

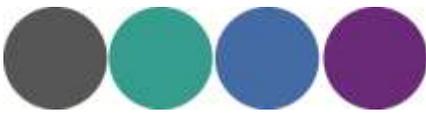
Alzheimer's/Dementia

[Latest Dementia Services Development Centre newsletter](#)

The Dementia Services Development Centre has published its latest newsletter. The January 2019 issue includes news of an International Masterclass in Sitrling on 14 and 15 May, plans for an online dementia information hub and other updates.

['Fidget Widget' toolkit launched for those with dementia](#)

A new 'fidget' toolkit using five tactile wooden tools to provide meaningful activity for people with dementia has been launched by Alzheimer's Society and University of Central Lancashire. The Fidget Widget is designed to provide meaningful activity for those who may experience fidgeting behaviours and have difficulty with words. The specially designed widgets use touch, feel and repetitive movements, each with a particular motion; spin, slide, twist, turn and roll.



[Intensive blood pressure control reduces risk of cognitive impairment, study finds](#)

Intensively lowering blood pressure among older people can reduce the risk of cognitive impairment, according to a study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association. A clinical trial conducted at 102 sites in the United States and Puerto Rico found that intensive control of blood pressure in older people significantly reduced the risk of developing mild cognitive impairment, a precursor of early dementia.

Care Homes/Care at Home

[Aberdeen care home told to make urgent improvements](#)

A care home for older people in Aberdeen must make urgent improvements in the care experienced by residents, inspectors have said. The Care Inspectorate has served a formal Improvement Notice on Banks O'Dee care home following a complaint and inspection which raised serious concerns. The notice lists four areas which require urgent improvement.

[Summary of Partnership for Improvement workshop](#)

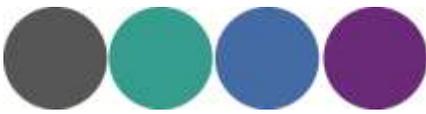
A short report provides a summary of a recent improvement workshop on medication management and reducing medication incidents held by the Care Inspectorate and Coalition of Care and Support Providers in Scotland (CCPS). The Partnership for Improvement event shared knowledge on: developments in the Care Inspectorate improvement work; the role of relationship manager and the new inspection framework; strategies for handling and reducing medication incidents; and the NHS Scotland Healthy Living Award.

[Age Scotland calls for investment in Care and Repair services](#)

Care and Repair and other housing support services are “under threat from drastic public funding cuts” despite initial findings of a new report suggesting such services improve quality of life, Age Scotland has warned. Responding to the news that some Care and Repair Scotland services are facing financial pressures, Age Scotland is calling for further investment into Care and Repair services, citing the initial findings of work co-produced with Stirling University into the impact of preventative services on older people.

[CQC publishes learning resource on hypothermia \(England\)](#)

Hypothermia is the subject of the latest in a series of resources produced by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) aimed at learning from safety incidents. The page briefly describe a critical issue, including what happened, what CQC and the provider have done about it, and the steps that can be taken to avoid it happening in other services.



Infection Prevention and Control

[UK-wide vision and action plan for antimicrobial resistance published](#)

A 20 year vision and five year action plan for antimicrobial resistance has been published by the UK Government. The vision and plan were developed across the government, its agencies and administrations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, with support from a range of stakeholders.

[Latest on Glasgow infection outbreaks](#)

Two hospitals in Glasgow are the subject of separate investigations into infection outbreaks, as reported by the BBC. Two premature babies died after contracting the staphylococcus aureus bacterium at the Princess Royal Maternity Hospital, while a third baby in the unit is receiving treatment after also contracting the blood stream infection. The news comes after a 10-year-old boy and a 73-year-old woman died after contracting the staphylococcus aureus bacterium at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital.

Justice

[Committee backs Management of Offenders Bill at Stage 1](#)

A Bill designed to ensure more effective electronic monitoring of offenders and reduce the length of time most people with convictions have to disclose their offending history has been backed by a Scottish Parliament Committee. Reporting at Stage 1, the Justice Committee supported changes to disclosure requirements and the proposal to increase the use of electronic tags within the proposed [Management of Offenders \(Scotland\) Bill](#), but advised this should be accompanied by “robust risk-assessment, proactive monitoring, and effective enforcement measures”.

[Latest annual statistics on criminal proceedings in Scotland](#)

Statistics on criminal proceedings in Scotland during 2017-18 have been published by the Scottish Government. The figures provide a summary of offences dealt with by courts, sentencing outcomes, including the use of community sentences, and characteristics of convicted offenders.

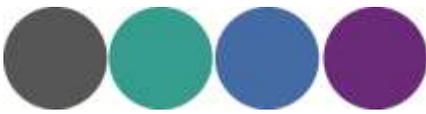
Older People

[HIS reports on care of older people at Borders hospital](#)

A report on the care of older people at Borders General Hospital has been published following an inspection by Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS). The inspection resulted in four areas of good practice and nine areas for improvement.

[Guide on future planning for people growing older with learning disabilities \(England\)](#)

A quick guide for practitioners supporting future planning for people growing older with learning disabilities has been published by the Social Care Institute for



Excellence (SCIE) and the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). The guide covers: Person-centred planning for now; Planning for the future: core principles; Creating a future plan; Future housing.

Other Health and Social Care

[Complaints about care services in Scotland 2014/15 to 2017/18](#)

The Care Inspectorate has published a report on complaints about care services in Scotland between 2014 and 2018. The report shows that while the overall quality of care services in Scotland remains consistently high, the number of complaints received by the scrutiny and improvement body has increased over the period. Care services operating in Scotland must be registered with the Care Inspectorate and there are currently almost 13,300 services registered. Most complaints received (45%) over the period were made by friends, relatives or carers of a person who experiences the care service. The majority of the 1,435 complaints that were investigated in 2017/18 were upheld (56% of completed investigations). Care homes account for 47% of the total number of complaints investigated – a total of 3,201 completed investigations. Over the last four years, 13% of the complaints investigated were about care at home services.

[Iriss Insight focuses on impact of participation in health and social care](#)

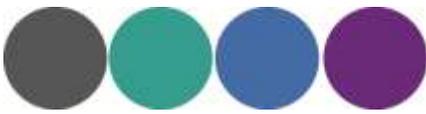
Participation and its impact on health and social care is the subject of the latest Iriss Insight. According to the Insight, the impact of participation approaches within health and social care was viewed as positive overall but some of the available evidence is poor and the long-term effects of participation can be difficult to measure.

[Charity warns against restricting EU care workers](#)

Age UK has warned that care workers from Europe must be allowed to be recruited in the UK, regardless of what happens in relation to Brexit or immigration rule changes. A Migration Advisory Committee report in 2018 proposed a policy restricting preferential access to the UK for EU workers earning below £30,000. Age UK has written to Home Secretary Sajid Javid highlighting the number of vacancies in the care sector and suggesting this will continue to rise if EU care workers are blocked from working in the UK. A Home Office spokesperson said the UK Government is considering whether a lower salary threshold should apply for some roles in shortage, adding that a new skills-based immigration system will be implemented from 2021 following a 12-month programme of engagement with stakeholders.

[National conference for social care and early years staff and final year students](#)

A national conference for staff and final year students training for a career in social care and early years is taking place on 20 March at Ayrshire College. What Matters to Us is to focus on person-centred and person-led care to equip future practitioners with the support they need.



[Pilot of newly qualified social worker supported and assessed year underway](#)

A pilot to test approaches to a supported and assessed year for newly qualified social workers (NQSWS) has been launched by the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC). Three strands of the pilot are underway: in Aberdeenshire; Angus and a partnership coordinated through Learning Network West involving four local authorities (Dumfries and Galloway, East Ayrshire, Glasgow and North Lanarkshire) and four higher education institutes. Those taking part in the pilot will be assessed against a draft NQSW standard.

[Latest Iriss round-up focuses on new Standards project](#)

The latest issue of the Iriss round-up includes an update on a new project help build an evidence base to bridge the Health and Social Care Standards with practice. Along with the Health and Social Care Standards Implementation Team and the Care Inspectorate, East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership and Perth and Kinross Council are exploring what it means to experience compassion and human rights in professional care relationships.

[CQC announces new Chief Inspector of Adult Social Care \(England\)](#)

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) has announced the appointment of Kate Terroni as Chief Inspector of Adult Social Care. Registered social worker and co-chair of the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services, Ms Terroni will take on the role in May, replacing Debbie Westhead who has been interim Chief Inspector since Andrea Sutcliffe's departure in December last year.

[CQC issues briefing as nursing associates join register \(England\)](#)

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) has issued a briefing as the first nursing associates [joined](#) the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) register in England. The CQC said it will expect evidence demonstrating that the new role, designed to bridge the gap between assistants and nurses, is being used safely and warned NHS trusts not to consider nursing associates the same as registered nurses.

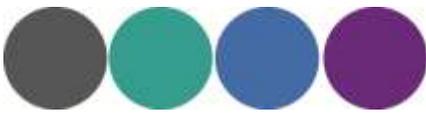
Other

[Scottish Budget to pass following agreement with Greens](#)

The Scottish Government has reached an agreement with the Scottish Green Party to ensure the Budget for 2019-20 passes all parliamentary stages. The agreement came ahead of a Stage 1 debate in which Finance Secretary Derek Mackay announced new measures to reform local authority funding. These include plans to work with COSLA to agree a three-year funding settlement for local government.

[Membership of new group to address loneliness and social isolation announced](#)

Membership of a new group to advise on addressing loneliness and social isolation has been announced by the Scottish Government. The first national strategy for tackling social isolation and loneliness was published in December 2018 and a



range of public, third sector organisations and experts have been brought together to support implementation. Members include COSLA, Age Scotland, Youthlink Scotland and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

[Latest homelessness statistics published](#)

The latest figures on homelessness in Scotland have been published by the Scottish Government. The publication provides figures on homelessness applications, assessments and outcomes in the period to 30 September 2018.

Disclaimer

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

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.

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