



[Additional Support Needs](#)

[Child Protection](#)

[Disabilities](#)

[Early Years and Childcare](#)

[Health](#)

[Human Rights](#)

[Infection Prevention and Control](#)

[Justice](#)

[Looked After and Accommodated Children](#)

[Learning Disabilities](#)

[Mental Health](#)

[Nutrition](#)

[Other](#)

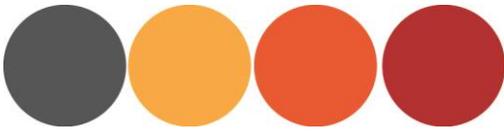
[Workforce](#)

[The Hub re-launch is live](#)

The policy team are excited to tell you that the re-launch of our improvement website, The Hub is now live! We listened to your feedback and with a couple of clicks you can now search and browse by care setting our extensive library of improvement publications and guidance, research, events, weekly news bulletins and case studies, with the option of filtering further by topic area. In each care setting section you will also find links to other areas of the site tailored to your interests, such as policy summaries, events, the national training directory for early learning and childcare and Care Inspectorate programmes and publications.

All your favourite features remain, including focussed areas for our improvement resources, the weekly bulletins and your own personalised library – now called My Library.

This re-launch is only the first step in the development of the new site, which we hope will continue to go from strength to strength with your support. Please send any feedback you have to hub@careinspectorate.gov.scot



Additional Support Needs

[Call for greater resourcing to support children and young people with ASN](#)

The Scottish Children's Services Coalition (SCSC) has called for greater resourcing to support children and young people with additional support needs (ASN). The SCSC also highlights figures from the annual Scottish Government pupil census that reportedly show a decrease in per pupil spend for those with ASN since 2012, and a decline in the number of specialist ASN teacher and support staff.

Child Protection

[Guidance on responsibilities for Child Protection Committee and Chief Officers](#)

The Scottish Government has published guidance on 'Protecting children and young people: Child Protection Committee and Chief Officer responsibilities'. This guidance updates the previous Protecting Children and Young People: Child Protection Committees (2005) guidance and is supplementary to the [National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland \(2014\)](#).

[Campaign to directly address people who target children online](#)

The BBC reports that Police Scotland and Stop It Now! Scotland are launching a new campaign to directly address sex predators who target children online. The campaign #StopItNow asks offenders how their family, employers and the wider world would view their actions online.

[Briefing on the Children \(Equal Protection from Assault\)\(Scotland\) Bill](#)

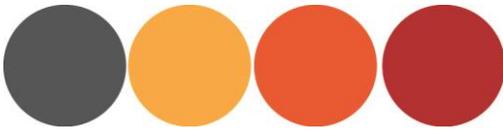
The Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe) has published a briefing on the Children (Equal Protection from Assault)(Scotland) Bill. The briefing covers the current law on assault in Scotland, the definition of physical punishment and research on the physical punishment of children, and the proposals and journey of the Bill itself.

[CSE Awareness Day \(18 March 2019\) and report on public understanding of CSE](#)

Barnado's Scotland has highlighted Child Sexual Awareness (CSE) Awareness Day on 18 March 2019 and the publication of their new report 'Public Understanding of Child Sexual Exploitation'. The results of a survey of over 1000 adults form the basis of the report. Barnado's Scotland found that a significant barrier to identifying CSE was the tendency for the public to accept child sexual exploitation does happen, but 'not in their local area'.

[Educational resource to teach about online safety](#)

Nursery World reports on a new education resource launched by the National Crime Agency to teach children from four to seven years old about online safety. The



resource to be used by practitioners is based on a three episode animation series called Jessie & Friends, and is designed to teach children to recognise manipulative strategies in online chat.

Disabilities

[Consultation on requirement for Changing Places Toilets](#)

A consultation has been launched by the Scottish Government on proposals for the introduction of a requirement for Changing Places Toilets in defined types of larger new buildings. Changing Places Toilets provide sanitary accommodation for people with multiple and complex disabilities who have one or two carers. The consultation closes on 13 May 2019.

[Evidence-based recommendations on cochlear implants](#)

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has published updated guidance on evidence-based recommendations on cochlear implants for children and adults with severe to profound deafness. This guidance has been updated after a review of the criteria for defining severe to profound deafness and for assessing adequate benefit from acoustic hearing aids

Early Years and Childcare

[Childminding Week 2019 \(6 – 12 May 2019\)](#)

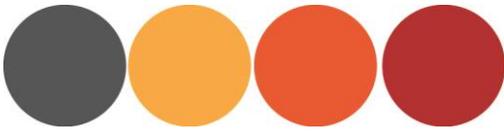
The Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) is encouraging childminders to get involved in Childminding Week 2019 by using the tag #CheerforChildminding to raise the profile and improve recognition of childminding.

[Childcare Survey 2019 on costs for childcare](#)

Coram Family and Childcare has published their annual Childcare Survey for 2019, based on surveys from local authorities in England, Scotland and Wales. For Scotland, the surveys' results reportedly show that Scottish parents now pay an average of £1111 per week, or almost £5,800 per year, for just a part time nursery place, and that only one in six Scottish local authorities reported that they had enough childcare right across the local area for parents working full time.

[Research on the incidence of adverse experiences for children](#)

Researchers from the Centre for Clinical Brain Sciences at the University of Edinburgh have published an article in the BMJ, 'Factors associated with adverse childhood experiences in Scottish children: a prospective cohort study', based on the Growing Up in Scotland study, which tracks the lives of children from birth through their teenage years and beyond. Seven adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), or proxies, were assessed: physical abuse, domestic violence, substance abuse, mental illness, parental separation, parental incarceration and emotional neglect.



[Call for 'zero screen time' for children under two years old](#)

Nursery World reports on the call by Dr Sigman, member of the UK Parliament's All-Party Parliamentary Group on a Fit and Healthy Childhood, for children under two years old to have 'zero screen time'. Dr Sigman will reportedly call on the UK Government to introduce official guidance recommending this approach to smartphones, tablets, PCs and TVs, as well as including recommendations on infant screen time in pre-natal care and advice, and in maternity ward 'birth packs' given to parents.

[First 1000 days of life \(England\)](#)

The UK Parliament's Health and Social Care Committee has published a report on the 'First 1000 days of life', from conception to age two. This report leads on from the Committee's inquiry into the knock-on effects of adverse childhood experience on physical and mental health and wellbeing in later life. Stating that "Intervening more actively in the first 1000 days of a child's life can improve children's health, development and life chances and make society fairer and more prosperous", the report makes a number of recommendations to improve support for children, parents and families.

Health

[Royal College report on paediatric workforce](#)

The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health has published a report on the paediatric workforce in Scotland, stating that the workforce is on the "brink of a recruitment crisis" and making recommendations to address this issue. The report states that the current workforce must expand and include the appointment of at least 82 more consultant paediatricians, an increase of a quarter (25%), in order to deliver the required standards of care to children and young people.

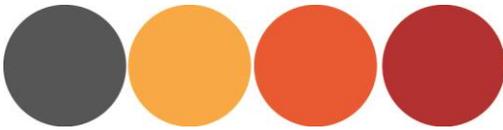
[International comparison of young people's health measures](#)

A report comparing young people aged 10 – 24 years old in the UK to 18 other high-income countries has been published by the Nuffield Trust. The report is based on 17 measures of the health and wellbeing of young people, including long-standing illnesses, alcohol consumption, cancer mortality, and obesity and deprivation. Findings include that the UK has the highest rate of deaths from asthma for young people aged 10-24, compared to all European countries in the comparator group, and that nearly one in five young people in the UK are estimated to be living with a long-standing health condition.

Human Rights

[Publications on children's rights and wellbeing impact assessments](#)

The Scottish Government has published a number of guidance documents on children's rights and wellbeing impact assessments, including:



- [Children's rights and wellbeing impact assessments: guidance](#)
- [Children's rights and wellbeing impact assessments: training tool](#)
- [Children's rights and wellbeing impact assessments: template](#)

Also published is [Children's rights legislation in Scotland: quick reference guide](#).

[Update report on actions to progress children's human rights](#)

The Scottish Government has published 'Children and young people's voices matter: progress report', outlining progress on the actions agreed at the second annual meeting of Cabinet members and children and young people in March 2018.

[Joint letter expresses concern on safety of children in no-deal Brexit](#)

The Children & Young People's Commission Scotland has joined with the Children's Commissioners for Wales, England and Northern Ireland, to send a letter to the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union calling for an urgent response on significant issues affecting the safety of children in the case of a no-deal Brexit. The joint letter asks the UK Government for guarantees on three crucial child rights issues: the European Arrest Warrant and protection of children who are abducted and taken abroad or trafficked through different countries; the civil law procedures and child protection agreements between EU states where parents and children live in different countries; and the system for sharing criminal record checks for EU nationals working with children in the UK.

[Response to restraint and seclusion report](#)

The Children & Young People's Commissioner Scotland has published the Scottish Government's initial response to their 'No Safe Place: Restraint and Seclusion in Scotland's Schools'. The Scottish Government has advised it will do further work with local authorities before responding in detail to each recommendation in the report.

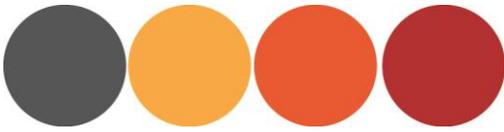
[State of Children's Rights 2018 Report \(England\)](#)

The Children's Rights Alliance for England, the policy arm of the charity Just for Kids Law, has published The State of Children's Rights in England 2018. The report collates findings from a range of sources to present an overview of children's rights in England and covers subjects including poverty and homelessness; safeguarding children; immigration, asylum and trafficking; education, leisure and cultural activities; health; and policing and criminal justice.

Infection Prevention and Control

[Updated Healthcare Associated Infection Compendium published](#)

An updated Healthcare Associated Infection (HAI) Compendium has been published by Health Protection Scotland (HPS). The document includes links to current national policy and guidance on HAI, antimicrobial prescribing and resistance,



decontamination and other related topics. The compendium aims to provide NHS Scotland staff with an overview of all up-to-date guidance from stakeholders and organisations. Additionally, the compendium includes links to the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual (NIPCM), the mandatory practice guide for all NHS Scotland care settings.

Justice

[CYCJ summarises their work over the last three years](#)

The latest Centre for Youth & Criminal Justice (CYCJ) Key Messages paper has now been published, summarising findings and themes from their work over the past three years. The paper poses several questions and presents the associated evidence to inform thinking and generate debate.

[Development of a Challenge Paper on Justice for Children](#)

The Institute for Inspiring Children's Futures and Centre for excellence for looked after children in Scotland (CELCIS) have joined with the Office of the UN Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence Against Children and the Child Justice Advocacy Group, Defense for Children International and Terre des Hommes to develop a Challenge Paper on Justice for Children. The paper will highlight the distinct realities of justice for children internationally and to inform next steps for the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goal 16, which aims to promote peaceful, inclusive societies for sustainable development and provide access to justice for all.

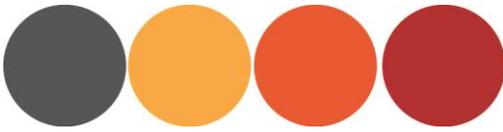
[Children's Commissioner reports on children who are members of gangs \(England\)](#)

The Children's Commissioner for England has published an in-depth study looking at children in England, who are members of gangs, 'Keeping kids safe: Improving safeguarding responses to gang violence and criminal exploitation'. The study estimates that there are 27,000 children in England who identify as a gang member, although some of these children may only identify loosely with a gang and may not be involved in crime or serious violence, and looks into the characteristics of children involved in gangs.

Learning Disabilities

[New Keys to Life implementation framework launched](#)

A new framework for the continued implementation of the Keys to Life learning disabilities strategy has been published. The Keys to Life 2019 – 2021 was launched by the Scottish Government and COSLA and was created in partnership with Scottish Commission on Learning Disabilities and the Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory. The new framework sets out the key priorities for the remaining period of the strategy, grouping these under: living, learning, working and wellbeing. It builds on work undertaken since the previous framework was published in 2015 and



reflects a commitment to equality through the Fairer Scotland Disability Delivery Plan.

[SCLD announces new Chief Executive](#)

The Scottish Commission on Learning Disabilities (SCLD) has announced Charlie McMillan as its new Chief Executive. Mr McMillan is currently Director of Services and Development at Capability Scotland and will take up his new appointment at SCLD on 6 May 2019.

Looked After and Accommodated Children

[Report on work of the Children's Reporter](#)

The Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) has published their Annual Report for young people, detailing their work and progress on their commitments to young people throughout 2018.

[Proposed improvements to the law for brothers and sisters who are in the care system](#)

Stand Up For Sibling has reported the announcement by the Minister for Children and Young People, Maree Todd MSP, that there are plans to make improvements to the law for brothers and sisters who are in the care system. The law is to be strengthened in relation to keeping brothers and sisters together when they are placed in local authority care when it is in their interest to do so. The changes will also result in siblings being on an equal footing with parents in relation to promoting personal relations, meaning that there will be a duty on local authorities to take steps to promote personal relations and contact between brothers and sisters when a child is in care.

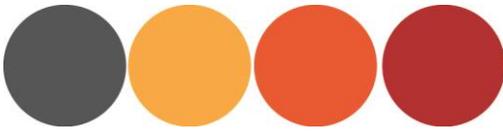
Mental Health

[Report on key issues affecting children and young people's mental health](#)

The Scottish Parliament's Public Audit and Post-Legislative Scrutiny Committee has published a 'Report on children and young people's mental health', on the key issues raised in the Audit Scotland report on children and young people's mental health, and the Committee evidence sessions which focused on current provision of services. The key issues identified are the changing nature of mental health, data of spending and outcomes, criteria for referrals, rejected referrals, treatment times, resources and workforce, and early intervention and preventative spend.

[New guidelines to be created to support care of patients with eating disorders](#)

The Scottish Government's Minister for Mental Health has highlighted that the Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN) will create new guidelines for healthcare professionals to support the treatment and care of patients with eating



disorders. As well as the guidance for healthcare professionals, a version will also be available for patients and carers.

Nutrition

[Good practice resource to support children to develop a positive relationship with healthy eating](#)

The Care Inspectorate has published 'Food Matters', a resource full of good practice examples of how to support children and families to develop a positive relationship with healthy eating. Eating well is essential for children in their early years as it can bring a host of health, social and educational benefits. The resource explores good practice examples from across the early learning and childcare sector in Scotland that support children to have positive eating experiences and enjoy well-balanced nutritious food.

Other

[Services for children and young people in Moray](#)

The Care Inspectorate has published a progress review following a joint inspection of services for children and young people in Moray. It follows an inspection report published in February 2017 which identified important weaknesses in how children and young people were supported in the area, with improvements needed in leadership, strategic planning, and how services worked together to improve the lives of children experiencing neglect. The progress review finds that services are improving though there is still more work to be done.

[Review of care services for early learning and childcare](#)

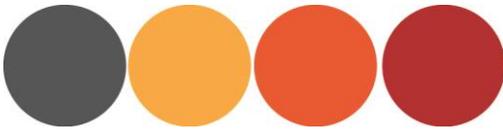
'A review of settings for early learning and childcare covering the period 2014 to 2017' has been published by the Care Inspectorate, summarising the context of early learning and childcare and the Care Inspectorate's findings from our inspection, registration, complaints and improvement work and considers what we can do to increase choices and create better outcomes for children and families experiencing care and learning settings in Scotland.

[New website to support parents and carers](#)

A new website called the Parent Club has been launched, to provide parents and carers with support throughout their child's early life and a platform to exchange ideas and tips. Information can be found on topics such as food and eating, behaviour, health, play, sleeping, and money.

[Research compares Care Inspectorate findings across different sectors](#)

Research using Care Inspectorate data to compare the performance of social care services across different sectors has been published in BMJ Open. The study is authored by Anders Malthe Bach-Mortensen at the University of Oxford and Paul



Montgomery at the University of Birmingham. The researchers concluded that providers from the third and public sectors were rated of higher quality and lower risk than for-profit providers, suggesting that “regulators and policymakers should incorporate more thought on how organisations across different sectors are incentivised to manage their resources, as this might influence the subsequent performance of commissioned services”.

[Social Work Scotland President marks World Social Work Day](#)

Social Work Scotland President Jackie Irvine has written about the recognition of the profession in Scotland to mark World Social Work Day. The theme of the day, which took place on 19 March, was promoting the importance of human relationships.

[SSSC LearnCast podcast series available](#)

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) has produced a series of podcasts focusing on digital learning and issues related to living, working and learning online. The LearnCast podcasts can be listened or subscribed to on various platforms, including iTunes, Spotify and Google Play.

[Accounts Commission publishes annual report on local government](#)

The Accounts Commission has published its annual report about local government in Scotland. Auditors found councils were maintaining or improving most services, but they cautioned that future reductions in Scottish Government funding and increasing demand meant changes to service delivery would be required. The report suggests almost 70% of council spending is on education and social care, and when combined with ring-fenced funding for the delivery of Scottish Government policies, councils have limited flexibility in how they spend and save money.

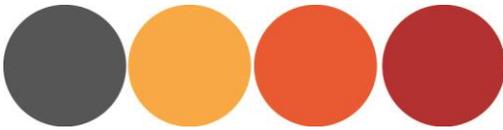
Workforce

[Iriss Insight on social media and social service workers](#)

A new Iriss Insight has been published to explore issues around social media and social service workers. The insight highlights the opportunities that social media creates for social service workers but also attempts to understand perceived risks, the relationship to workforce wellbeing, and future implications for practice.

[Initiative to ensure free legal advice and representation for those under investigation](#)

Registered workers whose fitness to practise is under investigation with the Scottish Social Service Council (SSSC) can now seek free legal advice and representation from the Aberdeen Law Project. The initiative is designed to provide workers with a new source of representation and make the fitness to practise process more accessible.



[Shortage occupations within health and social care](#)

The Scottish Government has published their response to the Migration Advisory Committee's Call for Evidence on Shortage Occupations. The response summarises skills shortages within health and social care, and details the contribution of international workers to the delivery of health and social care services in Scotland.

[Position paper calling for strategy for children's workforce \(England\)](#)

The Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS) has published a position paper, 'Building a workforce that works for all children', calling for the UK Government to appoint a workforce lead to oversee a coherent workforce strategy for the whole children's workforce, a central repository of learning and development resources available for all members of the children's workforce and for the government to provide a leadership development offer for aspirant and serving directors of children's services, including a greater focus on training black, Asian and minority ethnic leaders for the future.

Disclaimer

This weekly bulletin is produced as an update on the key issues concerning children and young people.

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 on this site.