



## Additional Support Needs

### [Analysis of responses to consultation on draft ASN strategy](#)

The Scottish Government has published an analysis of responses to its consultation on a draft ten-year strategy for learning provision for children and young people with complex additional support needs (ASN). The strategy aims to improve outcomes for children and young people with complex ASN through strategic commissioning of services, with a particular focus on the provision of education. The large majority of respondents were supportive of the strategy, although some felt it would benefit from the inclusion of a high level timeline and action plan for implementation, as well as detail on how progress would be measured and reported.

### [Slides available from event on young people with ASN presenting with harmful sexual behaviour](#)

The Centre for Youth and Criminal Justice has made available presentation slides from a recent conference on how a preventative approach can support young people with ASN who present with harmful sexual behaviour. The event, held on 3 April, sought to develop a better understanding of harmful sexual behaviour and the ways in which early intervention approaches should be adapted to meet the needs of young people with ASN.

[Additional Support Needs](#)

[Child Protection](#)

[Early Years and Childcare](#)

[Education](#)

[Health](#)

[Looked After and Accommodated Children](#)

[Self-directed Support](#)

[Other](#)



## **Child Protection**

### [Update requested on child protection in sport](#)

The Scottish Parliament's Health and Sport Committee has written to the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport requesting an update on child protection in sport. The Committee conducted an inquiry into this subject in 2017 which concluded with a report and are now asking for updates on action to be taken by the Scottish Government in relation to the operation of the PVG scheme, Standards for Child Wellbeing and Protection in Sport, and protections afforded to youth footballers.

### [Proposals to protect children online set out by UK Government](#)

Proposals to protect children online and ensure that companies are more responsible for their users' safety online have been set out by the UK Government. Other proposals outlined a white paper include a requirement for online companies to end the sharing of content about child abuse or terrorism, and that they publish annual reports revealing the amount of harmful content on their platforms, and how they have responded to this.

## **Early Years and Childcare**

### [Report following 5 Nations Early Years Summit](#)

A report summarising key discussions from the inaugural 5 Nations Annual Early Years Summit held in Glasgow in August 2018 has been published by Early Years Scotland. The event, hosted by Early Years Scotland, brought together voices from the sector from across the UK and Ireland. Conclusions from the day include plans to create a forum to enable discussion and document-sharing electronically across all nations.

### [Child Safety Week 2019: 3 – 9 June](#)

Child Safety Week 2019 will take place across 3 – 9 June, with a theme of Family life today: where's the risk? Hosted by Child Accident Prevention Trust, the week will focus on the new dangers facing families today from modern lifestyles and simple solutions to keep children safe. You can register for a free Child Safety Week pack [here](#).

### [Campaign to encourage parents to 'Chat, Play, Read' with children \(England\)](#)

A campaign to encourage parents to 'Chat, Play, Read' with their children before they start school has been launched by the UK Government and the National Literacy Trust. The campaign follows a survey conducted by the Department for Education suggesting that a third of children under five years old do not read books with someone at home every day, despite 34% of parents wanting to spend more time engaging in learning with their children and taking part in activities. The campaign will offer free advice and information to help parents make practical changes to their relationship with their children.



## **Education**

### [Education Scotland publishes Corporate Plan](#)

Education Scotland has published its Corporate Plan for 2019-22, setting out their vision and direction of travel for the organisation. The Plan is focused around five new strategic priorities in line with the National Improvement Framework for education: a strong focus on learning, teaching and leadership; national collaborative professional learning networks; getting it right for every child; best use of high quality evidence; effective partnerships.

## **Health**

### [NES publishes five-year strategy](#)

NHS Education for Scotland (NES) has published its strategy for 2019 – 2024. According to the strategy, NES wants to create and support: a high-quality learning and employment environment; national infrastructure to improve attraction, recruitment, training and retention; education and training for a skilled, adaptable and compassionate workforce; a national digital platform, analysis, intelligence and modelling; NES as a high-performing organisation.

## **Looked After and Accommodated Children**

### [Call for basic income for care leavers](#)

The charity Aberlour is calling for young people leaving care to be targeted as part of basic income trials, to ensure financial security for those who are eligible for throughcare and aftercare support but choose to move on from their care placements into independent living. Chief Executive SallyAnn Kelly said there is a need to be “radical” to improve support for care leavers and suggested: “As corporate parents we should be the bank of mum and dad for our young people”.

### [Programme to reduce number of children entering care \(England\)](#)

The Department of Education has announced a new programme to support up to 20 local authorities to improve work with families and safely reduce the number of children entering care. The local authorities will be supported to adapt and adopt one of three children’s social care innovation programme projects which aim to improve the safety and stability of vulnerable children and reduce the need for families to access services.

## **Self-directed Support**

### [Scottish Government publishes SDS implementation reports](#)

A range of documents on the implementation of Self-directed support (SDS) have been published by the Scottish Government. In November 2017, a consortium of Blake Stevenson Ltd, Rocket Science and the York Health Economics Consortium



was commissioned to conduct a study of the implementation of SDS to contribute to and help to shape ongoing national monitoring and evaluation.

- [Report 1: The SDS Change Map](#) is intended to capture the required changes for the effective delivery of social care within the context of SDS, consisting of three tiers: overall vision; four key outcomes; and intermediate outcomes that need to be in place to achieve the four key outcomes and overall vision.
- [Report 2: Evidence Assessment for Self-directed Support](#) sets out the findings of: an international literature review; an assessment of current data and other evidence in Scotland on SDS; and material from case studies.
- [Report 3: Self-directed Support Case Studies](#) - presents the findings from 13 case studies of SDS in Scotland in 2018.
- [Report 4: Summary of Study Findings and Implications](#) - summarises the research detailed in the above reports.

### [Resources for Self-directed Support Option 2](#)

Resources to help make Self-directed Support (SDS) Option 2 “a reality” have been published by Providers & Personalisation (P&P). The resources include A Definition for Option 2, A Model Contract for Option 2 and A Minimum Process for Option 2. P&P, hosted by CCPS Scotland, developed the resources in collaboration with a group of providers, local authorities and others.

### **Other**

#### [Iriss Insight looks at rural social work in Scotland](#)

The latest Iriss Insight looks at the context around rural social work and approaches that can be used to help social workers living and working in rural Scotland. Key points include: rural social work lacks academic interest, research and a strong literature base in Scotland; particular social work skills and knowledge are required to meet the needs of rural communities; and practice should build on the assets of the rural community, address issues of disadvantage and be based on generalist and ecological styles of practice.

#### [Analysis of responses to consultation on draft action plan for children’s rights](#)

A report analysing responses to a consultation on a draft children’s rights action plan has been published by the Scottish Government. The report summarises views on Progressing Children’s Rights in Scotland: An Action Plan 2018-21. Respondents felt the action plan should include overarching strategic actions intended to secure transformational change, a summary of specific initiatives being taken forward across all Scottish Government portfolios to implement United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) principles, and new policy actions that were identified through the consultation process.



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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](#).

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