

25 - 31 May 2019







Alzheimer's/Dementia

Care Homes/Care at Home

End of Life/Palliative Care

Mental Health

Older People

Other Health & Social Care

Other

Alzheimer's/Dementia

Survey on attitudes to dementia around the world

Alzheimer Scotland are highlighting the launch of a survey by Alzheimer's Disease International focusing on people's attitudes towards dementia around the world. Reportedly to be the largest survey of its kind so far, the survey is open to the general public, health and care professionals, people living with dementia and carers of people living with dementia. The results of the survey will form the basis for the World Alzheimer Report 2019.

Care Homes/Care at Home

New surveys for care homes for older people

The Care Inspectorate has developed new care surveys for care homes for older people that reflect the Health and Social Care Standards and complement the new quality framework for inspection. The new surveys have fewer questions and include packs of sentiment and response cards to support people to express their views more easily and simply, if they need to. Guidance has also been produced on how services can support people to give their views using the new surveys and card packs.



Care Homes/Care at Home

Care home told to make urgent improvements

The Care Inspectorate has served a formal Improvement Notice on Campsie View care home following an inspection which raised serious concerns about harm and neglect of residents. The notice lists four elements of care which require urgent improvement:

- ensuring that residents are kept safe and are protected from harm and neglect
- management at the home must ensure staff practice is monitored to ensure residents are supported appropriately at all times, and they must ensure that all staff are trained in preventing and recognising harm
- management must also ensure any treatment or interventions experienced by residents are safe and effective, and that medication is managed in line with good practice guidance
- staff must also be trained appropriately and appropriate care plans must be set out which detail how residents' individual health, welfare and safety needs are to be managed and met

End of Life/Palliative Care

Survey of nurses asks about care for people at end of life

An annual survey of nurses carried out by Nursing Standard and Marie Curie has been published, focusing on the care for people who are in the final months, weeks or days of life. The results of the survey reportedly show that 33% of nurses say they are not sufficiently supported at work to manage grief and emotional stress, and 29% say a lack of provision of community services, including care in a patient's home, care homes and hospices, was a significant barrier to providing care to such patients.

Mental Health

New mental health and suicide prevention training resource for football clubs

The Scottish Government has funded a resource for football clubs to provide mental health and suicide prevention training for their players and staff. Created by NHS National Education for Scotland and NHS Health Scotland, the online resource consists of three animations that aim to raise awareness of the issues that affect people and that can lead those in distress to sometimes think about taking their own life. As well as being shared with professional football clubs, the resource will be shared across all junior, youth, women's, amateur and para-football leagues and clubs, and mental health first aiders employed by football organisations.



Older People

Research on waiting times for social care

Age Scotland has published 'Waiting for Care: Is Scotland meeting its commitment to older people', research examining the waiting times for social care across local authorities and the impact of the delays on people and their families in three case studies. The research reportedly finds that 43% of older people assessed as needing substantial or critical care in 2018 waited more than the 6 weeks outlined in national guidelines to get the social care they need.

Scottish Government's views on prosecution of elder abuse

The Cabinet Secretary for Justice Humza Yousaf has written to the Convenor of the Scottish Parliament's Justice Committee outlining the Scottish Government's views on the prosecution of elder abuse and key issues which have arisen during the Committee's inquiry into the subject. The letter covers views on the definition of elder abuse, provision of data on the detection and prosecution of elder abuse, operation of the new domestic abuse offence, proposals for the creation of a specific statutory aggravator based on age hostility, improved training for professionals and public awareness on the identification and reporting of elder abuse, a review of civil and family law in terms of addressing abusive behaviour towards older people, and how policies and strategies on older people can deliver on the rights of older people in a joined-up manner.

Other Health and Social Care

Annual report of the Health and Sport Committee for 2018/19

The Scottish Parliament's Health and Sport Committee has published their annual report for 2018/19, covering their work including the inquiries both continued and initiated during the Parliamentary year, and scrutiny of Scottish Government legislative Bills.

Overview of primary care

The Scottish Parliament's Information Centre (SPICe) has published a briefing overview of primary care in Scotland, outlining how primary care operates in Scotland to inform the Scottish Parliament's Health and Sport Committee's inquiry into 'What does primary care look like for the next generation?'

Nursing council publishes corporate plan

The Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC) has published their corporate plan for 2019-20. The plan sets out their strategic priorities for the next year and the four areas of focus are changing their approach, core regulatory initiatives, enhancing their capability and infrastructure, and developing their new strategy for 2020-25.



Analysis of social care funding (England)

The Health Foundation has published an analysis of funding for adult social care, examining the UK Government spending on adult social care per person compared to Scotland and Wales. The analysis reportedly shows that there will be a social care funding gap of £4.4bn in England in 2023/24 to meet rising demand and address critical staffing shortages in the sector.

Other

Guidance on raising concerns in the workplace

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) and the Care Inspectorate have launched new guidance to make sure social service workers, students and employers know how to raise a concern about the care, dignity and safety of people who use social services. The guidance includes examples of the type of things workers and students might need to raise a concern about, for example if they feel the service they work in is not maintaining the dignity of people who use services during personal care, and for employers it explains their role in making sure staff feel they can speak openly about their concerns and be sure that what they say will be treated with sensitivity and in confidence.

Update on review of post registration training and learning process

An update has been provided by the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) on their progress in the review of the post registration training and learning (PRTL) process. The SSSC has been working five different organisations to try out different methods of recording and reflecting on learning, finding out what registrants already know about areas such as their requirements, post registration training and learning, what is meant by continuous learning, etc, and coming up will be an external evaluation of the different approaches and methods of recording and reflecting on learning in the testing organisations which they will share with the sector.

Social work association welcomes new National Director

The Scottish Association of Social Work (SASW) is welcoming a new National Director Alistair Brown. Mr Brown is succeeding Trisha Hall, who was National Director for six years before recently announcing her retirement, and he is reportedly keen to increase member engagement in Scotland and understand what would enable more registered social workers to actively participate in their Association.



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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