



24 – 30 August 2019



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Child Protection

[New Hub section on Significant Case Reviews](#)

The Care Inspectorate's Hub website now has a dedicated section on Significant Case Reviews (SCRs) on its Child Protection page. The section signposts to national reports and research on SCRs, as well as additional reading and websites. SCR reports and learning summaries published in the last 18 months are also featured.

Children's Rights

[Children in Scotland reiterates call for full incorporation of UNCRC](#)

Children in Scotland has highlighted its response to the Scottish Government's consultation on the incorporation of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The charity reiterated its call for full incorporation of the UNCRC and urged the Scottish Government to take forward legislation as soon as possible. Children in Scotland warned against a 'Scottish suite' of re-written UNCRC articles for Scotland, warning that this would risk diluting the principles of the Convention.



[CELCIS responds to children's rights consultation](#)

The Centre for Excellence for Children's Care and Protection (CELCIS) has also published its response to the UNCRC consultation. CELCIS endorsed the intention to incorporate the UNCRC into Scots law and also highlighted a range of implementation measures to ensure the impact of incorporation matches aspirations.

[Call for greater emphasis on application of human rights in public services](#)

The ALLIANCE has highlighted its response to the Equality and Human Rights Committee's inquiry on the Scottish Government's draft budget 2020/21. The Committee issued a [call for views](#) on public sector funding for third sector organisations that deliver national equalities and human rights priorities. The ALLIANCE suggested public services had to better implement human rights based principles, particularly to improve the experiences of people with disabilities, people with long term conditions and unpaid carers. The organisation has called for the application of a human rights framework to the budget, as well as disaggregated data collection related to the outcomes of people from seldom heard groups.

Early Learning and Childcare

[Draft out of school care framework out for consultation](#)

The Scottish Government has published a draft framework for out of school care in Scotland for consultation. The document "sets out a vision for out of school care, considers the current picture of out of school care in Scotland and asks questions about the benefits and challenges of accessing out of school care". The Scottish Government has also published the [findings](#) of a survey of parents and carers, commissioned to inform the framework. The consultation closes on 6 December.

[Latest monthly updates on ELC expansion](#)

The latest monthly updates on the early learning and childcare (ELC) expansion programme have been published by the Scottish Government. The August 2019 update includes information on a range of activities and events taken forward as part of the work expanding and improving ELC provision in Scotland.

[Busy Bees launches app to upskill parents and practitioners](#)

An app to upskill parents and early years practitioners in supporting children's development is to be launched by nursery group Busy Bees. UP, standing for Unleashing Potential, will be free to parents who use Busy Bees' settings, including offline activity suggestions for children aged between three months and five years, and professional advice for the adults who care for them. Resources are also available on the UP website.



[Sector-led campaign to boost ELC recruitment](#)

Nursery World reports on new efforts to overcome recruitment challenges in early learning and childcare (ELC) led by the sector itself. 'What is Early Years' is a new initiative funded by the Childbase Partnership, CACHE, Connect Childcare and the Early Years Alliance and aims to explore how the sector is perceived and the best ways to promote the benefits of a career in ELC. Independent research company, Ceeda, is leading the project which will gather the views of those currently working in ELC, the wider labour market and young people considering their future careers.

Health

[Latest surveillance report on HIV care and treatment in Scotland](#)

Health Protection Scotland (HPS) has published a surveillance report on the treatment and care of people with HIV. The summary report suggests more than 5,000 people are living with HIV in Scotland, with 92% of people attending services for specialist treatment. The statistics also show 98% were reported to be receiving antiretroviral therapy and 94% of these people had achieved an undetectable viral load. However, HPS raised concerns that too many people were being hospitalised with HIV due to late diagnosis. The number of young people who are not attending services to access treatment was also highlighted, with HPS suggesting this was due to the impact of stigma and the need for better education in schools.

Justice

[Latest CYCJ e-bulletin](#)

The Centre for Youth and Criminal Justice (CYCJ) has published its latest e-bulletin. The bulletin features updates on the latest news, events and training from the CYCJ, including the recent address from Justice Secretary Humza Yousaf at the 2019 National Youth Justice Conference.

Looked After and Accommodated Children

[Over 200 advance payments to survivors of abuse in care so far](#)

Over 200 payments have been made to survivors of child abuse in care through the Advance Payment Scheme, the Scottish Government has confirmed. Eligible applicants (those who are terminally ill or age 70 or over) have received £10,000 under the scheme, which provides acknowledgement and recognition of harm done to those who were abused in care in Scotland.

[Concern over private equity foster care firms \(England\)](#)

Concerns have been raised by the Local Government Association about the number of private equity foster care firms acquiring small agencies in England, the BBC reports. The organisation said three independent groups now account for 45% of funds spent on independent fostering by English local authorities, who are



concerned about the consequences if one of these groups should fail. Councils in England manage foster placements themselves as well as commissioning care from independent fostering agencies. Many councils said they already struggle to meet the costs of independent foster care, which they said were far higher than their in-house provision.

Mental Health

[Many children unhappy with their lives, according to report by Children's Society](#)

Almost a quarter of a million children in the UK could be unhappy with their lives as a whole, according to a report by the Children's Society. The charity's latest Good Childhood report analyses data and children's views, rating their happiness on a scale of one to 10. According to the report, overall happiness has been rated below the eight out of 10 mark for the first time in 10 years.

Other

[Food project supports over 200 children this summer](#)

Children in Scotland's Food, Families, Futures (FFF) project has helped provide over 200 children across Scotland with meals, activities and social experiences during this year's summer holidays, according to the charity. Seven local authorities worked with the organisation to provide around 3,500 meals. FFF supports school buildings to become community hubs over the summer holiday period, providing social spaces for local families. Children in Scotland is also engaging with local authorities to learn from and share good practice.

[SSSC Convener reflects ahead of leaving at end of August](#)

Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) Convener Jim McGoldrick has reflected on his time with the organisation ahead of leaving at the end of August. Mr McGoldrick joined the SSSC in 2013 and notes the significant developments he has seen over the past six years.

[SSSC consults on changes to fitness to practise hearings](#)

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) is consulting on proposed changes to its fitness to practise hearings process. The SSSC proposes to only hold hearings when the worker disagrees with the outcome of a fitness to practise investigation and asks for a hearing to resolve the disagreement. A consultation on the changes closes on 16 October.

[Ruth Davidson steps down as leader of Scottish Conservatives](#)

Ruth Davidson has announced her decision to step down as leader of the Scottish Conservatives, citing family reasons. Jackson Carlaw MSP is expected to again act as interim leader. The announcement comes the day after the Queen gave Prime



Minister Boris Johnson consent to [prorogue Parliament](#) after MPs return in September.

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.

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