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Additional Support Needs

[Agendas and minutes from Autism Strategy Review Group](#)

Agendas and minutes from Autism Strategy Review Group meetings in have been published by the Scottish Government. The meetings were held in January and May 2019, including reference to the roll out of autism champions within inspection teams.

Child Protection

[Updated quality framework and guide for inspections of services for children in need of care and protection](#)

The Care Inspectorate has published an updated quality framework and a new guide for services for children and young people in need of care and protection. The framework is launched in July 2018 for community planning partnerships to support self-evaluation of services. We have now reviewed and updated the framework, and in particular made some minor changes to the six point scale definitions so that they align fully with the Care Inspectorate quality framework. To coincide with the publication, we have also launched The Guide, which is an inter-active resource to support community planning partnerships through a joint inspection of their services. The resource contains a week-by-week guide to the process, useful information about key aspects and a set of supporting documents.



[Minutes from meeting of National Child Protection Leadership Group](#)

Minutes from a meeting of the National Child Protection Leadership Group have been published by the Scottish Government. The group met in April 2019, with Chief Executive Peter MacLeod representing the Care Inspectorate.

[IVY service to move from CYCJ to Kibble](#)

The Interventions for Vulnerable Youth (IVY) service is to close at the Centre for Youth and Criminal Justice (CYCJ) and will be based at the Kibble Education and Care Centre from 1 November. The CYCJ said it would continue to work closely with Kibble to ensure continuity and focused support for the young people the service is currently working with, and will document the learning from and the impact of the IVY service to improve youth justice systems in Scotland.

[Minutes from meeting of rape and sexual assault taskforce](#)

Minutes of the meeting of the Taskforce for the Improvement of Services for Victims of Rape and Sexual Assault have also been published. The meeting was held on 7 May 2019 and included an update on the Care Inspectorate and HIS' work to develop Scotland-specific standards for Barnahus.

[Reported rise in recorded online grooming crimes \(England and Wales\)](#)

A Freedom of Information request to police forces in England and Wales by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) asking for the number of recorded offences of sexual communication with a child, or online sexual grooming, reportedly shows a rise from 4,373 in the year to April 2019, compared to 3,217 in the previous year. The information also reportedly shows that where age was provided, one in five victims were aged just 11 or younger and the number of recorded instances of the use of Instagram was more than double that of the previous year.

Early Learning and Childcare

[Update on shared inspection framework for early learning and childcare](#)

The Care Inspectorate and Education Scotland has agreed with the Scottish Government to defer the development of a shared inspection framework until the expansion of early learning and childcare has been fully implemented. During this period, both organisations will continue to work together to strengthen working relationships and arrangements, including ensuring wherever practicable that settings receive one inspection during a cycle. We will also further strengthen our model for shared inspections and our collaborative working practices. Education Scotland will continue to use How Good is Our Early Learning and Childcare during inspections. The Care Inspectorate will continue to develop a quality framework for the sector in line with other care service types. Until the new framework has been agreed, we will continue to use the Quality Theme Framework for inspection.



[SCMA welcomes shared inspection framework announcement](#)

The Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) has welcomed the announcement that development of the shared inspection framework with Education Scotland is to be deferred until after the implementation of the ELC expansion. Graeme McAlister, Chief Executive of SCMA, said it was a “pragmatic decision given the implementation pressures around ELC”, adding: “This provides clarity for childminders and the wider early years sector at this time, for whom the timeline for introducing a shared inspection has caused uncertainty. Our members should be assured that we will continue to contribute a childminding perspective to national discussions around this when work recommences after the implementation of 1140 hours from August 2020.”

[Resources toolkit launched to help stakeholders communicate ELC changes](#)

A suite of resources to help stakeholders communicate with parents and carers about changes in early learning and childcare (ELC) has been launched by the Scottish Government. The toolkit brings together a range of documents that can be drawn on when communicating about changes to the ELC landscape, with the intention is that it will evolve and be added to towards August 2020.

[Pay and conditions negotiating guide for childminders](#)

The Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) will be publishing their updated version of Pay & Conditions, their negotiating guide for childminders with details of the average rates of pay for childminders across different areas of Scotland. They are seeking feedback through their Pay & Conditions Survey until Friday 11 October 2019.

[Male discouraged from intimate early years care due to parental concerns, campaign group says](#)

Male practitioners are being discouraged from providing intimate care to children as parents are uncomfortable with the idea, according to a campaign group. Nursery World reports that Men in the Early Years (MITEY) have heard frequent stories from male early years practitioners whose employers have given in to parents' demand for them not to be involved in intimate caregiving, such as changing their child's nappy, because they are uncomfortable with the idea of a man doing it.

[Campaign to help nurseries encourage garden use](#)

A campaign to help nurseries encourage sustainability through gardening has been launched by the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS). The Campaign for School Gardening aims to teach children about sustainability, environmental issues, healthy fruit and vegetables and wildlife as well as life skills such as teamwork, social skills and co-operation. Services can sign up online to receive free RHS resources, information, lesson plans and advice on creating and maintaining gardens.



Health

[Updated physical activity guidelines](#)

The UK Chief Medical Officers have published updated physical activity guidelines for different age groups, covering the volume, duration, frequency and type of physical activity required across the life course to achieve health benefits. Activity guidelines for children include:

- Infants (less than a year old) should be physically active several times every day in a variety of ways, including interactive floor-based activity, e.g. crawling
- For infants not yet mobile, this includes at least 30 minutes of tummy time spread throughout the day while awake
- Toddlers (one to two years old) should spend at least 180 minutes (3 hours) per day in a variety of physical activities at any intensity, including active and outdoor play, spread throughout the day
- Pre-schoolers (three to four years old) should spend at least 180 minutes (3 hours) per day in a variety of physical activities spread throughout the day, including active and outdoor play
- Children and young people (five to 18 years old) should engage in moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (MVPA) for an average of at least 60 minutes per day across the week; should engage in a variety of types and intensities of physical activity across the week; and when physically possible should break up long periods of not moving with at least light physical activity.

Justice

[Themes that can contribute to improved life chances of children who offend](#)

The Centre for Youth & Criminal Justice (CYCJ) has published a paper, 'Improving the life change of children who offend: A summary of common factors', aiming to support all practitioners, managers and policy makers involved in improving the life chances of children. The themes identified that can contribute to improved life chances of children are school inclusion, strengthening relationships and engagement, victims and community confidence, improving health and wellbeing, opportunities for all, and transitions. The paper details factors emerging from these themes, the outcomes that can be achieved and challenges under each of the themes.

[Children whose mothers are in prison and impact on their rights \(England\)](#)

A report by the House of Commons' Joint Committee on Human Rights has set out evidence on the impact on children whose mothers are in prison and their rights to family life. Recommendations within the report include that women who are pregnant must only be given custodial sentences in very exceptional circumstances.



Looked After and Accommodated Children

[Update on work of Independent Care Review](#)

A briefing providing an update on the work of the Independent Care Review has been published. The Review is in the third of four stages, the Journey Stage. The update provides information on the work of the Review so far and looks ahead to the final stage: Destination.

Mental Health

[Quality standard on suicide prevention](#)

A new quality standard has been published by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) on suicide prevention. The standards contains five quality statements covering the ways to reduce suicide and help people bereaved or affected by suicide, and describing high-quality care in priority areas for improvement.

[New panel to inform efforts to prevent suicide](#)

A new panel to inform and educate on the ways to prevent suicide has been announced by the Scottish Government. The panel, made up of those who have previously attempted suicide or who have experienced suicidal thoughts and those who have lost a loved one to suicide, will help support the Scottish Government's National Suicide Prevention Leadership Group. The recruitment of the panel will be a collaboration between mental health charities.

[Progress reports on actions in Mental Health Strategy](#)

A range of progress reports against actions in the Mental Health Strategy have been published by the Scottish Government. The strategy, covering 2017 – 2027, contains 40 specific actions. The progress reports relate to each action.

[Follow up on review of children and young people's mental health services \(England\)](#)

The Care Quality Commission is following up on recommendations made in their review of children and young people's mental health services and outlined in their report, 'Are we listening?', by asking Health and Wellbeing Boards in England how they are progressing with implementation of the recommendations and what barriers they have faced.

Other

[Care Inspectorate publishes Corporate Plan 2019 - 2022](#)

The Care Inspectorate has published its Corporate Plan 2019 - 2022, setting out a vision, purpose, ambition and priorities for the next three years. The plan sets out three strategic outcomes with a set of strategic outcomes underpinning them. The



outcomes are aligned to a set of measures that we will monitor and report on quarterly to our board through our performance reporting. They are: People experience high-quality care; People experience positive outcomes; People's rights are respected.

[Children in Scotland Chief Executive to take leave of absence until end of year](#)

Children in Scotland Chief Executive Jackie Brock is to take a leave of absence from her role until the end of the year. Simon Massey, Head of Engagement & Learning, and Amy Woodhouse, Head of Policy, Projects & Participation, have been appointed Joint Acting Chief Executives, and will be in post from Monday 16 September until Ms Brock returns.

[Refreshed guidance for meaningful engagement with children and young people](#)

Refreshed guidance for meaningful engagement with children and young people has been published by Children in Scotland. The resource provides a framework underpinned by the UNCRC, providing guidelines to support ongoing dialogue to ensure children's voices can influence all aspects of an organisation's work.

[Minutes from meeting of working group on incorporation of children's rights](#)

Minutes from the first meeting of the Incorporating the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into Domestic Law in Scotland working group have been published by the Scottish Government. The group met on 25 June 2019. The group's [terms of reference](#) are also available.

[Unsuitable temporary accommodation limit extended to those facing homelessness](#)

Those facing homelessness will spend no longer than a week in unsuitable accommodation under a legislative change the Scottish Government has announced. The Unsuitable Accommodation Order will be extended so that the seven day limit on unsuitable temporary accommodation, which currently covers families with children and pregnant women, will now be extended to protect everyone at risk of homelessness.

[COSLA Health and Social Care Spokesperson returns to role](#)

COSLA's Health and Social Care Spokesperson Councillor Peter Johnston is to return to his role following a period of absence. Councillor Stuart Currie had been deputising for Councillor Johnston.

[Five new SSSC Council Members appointed](#)

Maree Todd MSP, Minister for Children and Young People has announced the appointment of five new Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) Council Members. The appointments are Julie Grace, Lynne Huckerby, Peter Murray, Rona King and Russell Pettigrew.



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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