

Adult and Health



[Alcohol/Drugs](#)

[Alzheimer's/Dementia](#)

[Care Homes/Care at Home](#)

[Disability](#)

[Other Health & Social Care](#)

[Other](#)

Alcohol/Drugs

[Guidance on new drug driving offence](#)

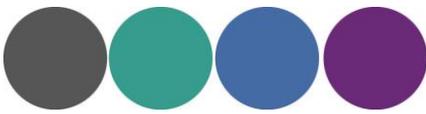
The Scottish Government has published guidance for healthcare professionals on the new criminal offence of driving with specified controlled drugs in the body above that drugs' accepted limit, which comes into force in Scotland on 21 October 2019. There is no expectation that healthcare professionals should give advice on the new offence itself to patients. This guidance is intended to provide healthcare professionals with an understanding of the new law by:

- explaining the new legislation, including the statutory 'medical defence' available to patients who have taken their medicine in accordance with the advice of a healthcare professional and the information contained in the leaflet accompanying the medicine
- reiterating existing medical advice that would normally be given to patients about medicines that could impair their driving

Alzheimer's/Dementia

[Toolkit for deaf people living with dementia](#)

The British Deaf Association (BDA) Scotland, with the Life Changes Trust, have published a new toolkit for people and their carers who are deaf and living with dementia. 'The Deaf Dementia Experience in Scotland...a Toolkit for All' is a user-friendly toolkit



in plain English and British Sign Language (BSL) which covers the dementia journey, and includes the personal experiences of families living with dementia. When someone who uses BSL has dementia, they can face greater barriers in accessing suitable resources, so this toolkit includes information about the onset of dementia, diagnosis and living well with dementia.

Care Homes/Care at Home

[Review of dementia care in care homes underway \(Wales\)](#)

Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) are undertaking a review of how well care homes promote wellbeing and achieve good outcomes for people living with dementia. From October 2019 to January 2020, CIW will be inspecting 228 care homes and looking at the experiences of people living with dementia and their carers and families, as well as consulting with commissioners.

Disability

[Survey on disabled access to public places](#)

Euan's Guide will be running their annual access survey throughout October and November on what disabled people think of access provision in public places and spaces. The survey is open to disabled people, their family and friends as well as individuals who work closely with disabled people such as carers or healthcare professionals. Questions include how confident people are in visiting new places, what action they take if a venue has not shared its disabled access information, and what they do after visiting somewhere with good disabled access.

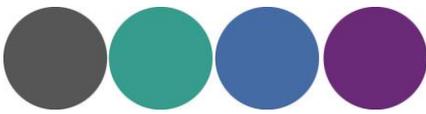
Other Health and Social Care

[Social work practice and user' needs should be at core of digital technology use](#)

A report published by the Social Care Institute for Excellence and British Association of Social Workers suggests the development and use of digital technology in the sector should be driven by the needs of people who use services and social work practice. The research shows social workers are keen to engage with digital technology but want it to enable relationship-based practice and improve services for the user. A broad definition of digital technology was applied during the research, covering data, assistive technology, social media and networks and online learning. The report includes key messages for stakeholders, including a recommendation for educators, trainers and supervisors to build the development of digital capabilities into core programmes.

[Annual state of care report \(England\)](#)

The Care Quality Commission has published their annual 'The state of health care and adult social care in England 2018/19', looking at the trends, sharing examples of good and outstanding care, and highlighting where care needs to improve. Key findings from the report include:



- most of the care across England is good quality, overall quality is improving slightly, but people face difficulties in accessing care and support as there is pressure on all health and care services
- the care given to people with a learning disability or autism is not acceptable and a better system of care is needed for people with a learning disability or autism who are, or are at risk of, being hospitalised, segregated and placed in overly restrictive environments
- there are increasing concerns regarding getting care and support in the community - a lack of prevention services, early stage or low-level support, community-based NHS services and social care
- care services and organisations must work more closely together so that the right services are being commissioned to deliver what people need
- the CQC encourage innovation that improves the quality of care but it is still more likely to be driven and supported by individual leaders or local services

[Social care recruitment campaign next phase \(England\)](#)

The UK Government's Department of Health and Social Care has launched the next phase of its social care recruitment campaign, 'When you care, every day makes a different'. The campaign will continue to target 20 to 39 year olds, raising awareness of the benefits of a career in adult social care and attracting new people with the right values to the sector.

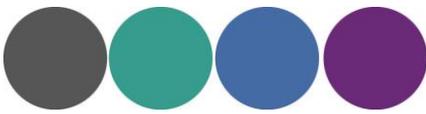
Other

[Fund for charities and third sector to support people accessing benefits](#)

The Scottish Government has announced a new 'Scottish Benefit Take-up Fund' to support charities and third sector organisations in their work to tackle the perceived stigma around benefits and support people through the application process to access benefits. Opening for bids in November 2019, the fund will also help organisations to be prepared for the new benefits system, with a particular emphasis on helping those who are new to applying for benefits and assisting harder-to-reach people.

[Advice on cross-border family law disputes after Brexit](#)

The Scottish Government has produced a document detailing changes to the rules for civil judicial co-operation in family law that will arise in the event of a 'no deal' exit from the EU. The guidance is for the information of legal practitioners involved in family law in Scotland and the EU, including divorce and child maintenance, in the event that the UK leaves the EU without a deal. Other issues such as international parental child abduction, placement of children and judgements on parental responsibility are covered in the document. There is public guidance available and the Scottish Government has advised anyone involved in cross-border family law disputes to refer to that guidance.

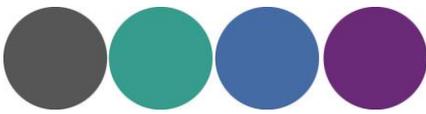


[Scottish Government publishes details of Brexit planning](#)

The Scottish Government has published an overview of preparations for a ‘no deal’ Brexit. The document sets out the potential impacts of no deal and a range of planned and potential actions in response. Under potential impacts of no deal, the publication states: “There would be myriad impacts on the NHS and on social care support in Scotland as a result of a ‘No Deal’ EU exit. A significant proportion of medicines, medical devices and clinical consumables are imported from the EU, meaning that the imposition of customs controls and tariffs if the UK leaves the EU with ‘No Deal’ has the potential to substantially disrupt supplies of medicines, medical devices and clinical consumables. EU withdrawal also poses a significant risk to the recruitment and retention of staff in the health and social care workforce.” Under mitigating actions, the document states the Scottish Government is working closely with COSLA and social care providers to help with their contingency planning.

[Co-production information event \(20 November 2019\)](#)

The Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (Iriss) will host an event on co-production in Edinburgh on 20 November 2019. The event is for practitioners and managers working in local authority, third or private sector social services contexts, who want to understand more about co-production, develop their current practice, and network with others interested in this way of working.



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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