Alzheimer's/Dementia

Free dementia event for people with a learning disability

A conference on dementia will be held next month for people with dementia. The day focuses on findings from a study at the University of Stirling funded by the Alzheimer’s Society and led by an inclusive research team, including co-researchers with a learning disability. Those attending will have the opportunity to hear from the research team and try some of the positive ways in which people with a learning disability and dementia were supported. This includes music playlists, animal therapy and reminiscence. The event takes place in Stirling on 10 March.

Care Homes/Care at Home

Improvement Notice for Hamilton care at home service

The Care Inspectorate has served a formal Improvement Notice on Hamilton Home Care following an inspection which raised serious concern. The notice lists four areas which require urgent improvement at the care at home service. These include ensuring that those who are responsible for managing and leading the service have the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to do so. The Improvement Notice also says management must carry out a comprehensive care review that includes a full assessment of service user care needs and devise a detailed support plan and make relevant risk assessments.
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**Drumdrae Care Home served Improvement Notice**

An Edinburgh care home has been served an Improvement Notice by the Care Inspectorate, which sets out a range of improvements which must be made by 28 February 2020. The notice lists five areas which require urgent improvement. These include promoting the dignity and choices of residents; staff qualifications and training; and medication management. They must also improve record keeping on residents' needs and care plans, and staff training on the safe movement of residents.

**Mental Health**

**Mental health law review to seek evidence**

The Scottish Government has provided a progress update on the work to review mental health law in Scotland, chaired by John Scott QC. The main aim of the review, which was launched in March 2019, is to improve the rights and protections of those living with mental illness and remove barriers to those caring for their health and welfare. A website for the review will be launched this month alongside a call for evidence from service users, those with lived experience and those that care for them. Individuals and organisations will have the opportunity to share their experiences and how mental health law has affected them.

**Older People**

**Intergenerational projects could tackle rising age segregation says report**

A report by United for All Ages suggests the UK is one of the most age-segregated countries in the world, with people having little contact with other generations outside of their own families. The report says divisions between the generations have grown as a result of house market trends, with older people more likely to live in towns and rural areas and young people more likely to reside in cities. United for All Ages is a social enterprise which supports intergenerational projects as a way to tackle social and economic issues such as housing, health and loneliness. The report highlights a number of intergenerational projects and makes recommendations such as creating community hubs within care homes, extending school opening hours for intergenerational activities and an increase in home-sharing schemes.
Other Health and Social Care

New inquiry into future of social care in Scotland

The Scottish Parliament’s Health and Sport Committee has opened a new inquiry into the future of social care. The inquiry is focused on the future delivery of social care in Scotland what changes may be required to meet current and increasing future demand. The Committee is seeking input from people who have experienced or provided social care, as well as organisations who deliver care. The inquiry is focused on four key questions:

- How should the public be involved in planning their own and their community’s social care services?
- How should Integration Authorities commission and procure social care to ensure it is person-centred?
- Looking ahead what are the essential elements in an ideal model of social care (e.g. workforce, technology, housing etc.)?
- What needs to happen to ensure the equitable provision of social care across the country?

The deadline for responses to the Committee is Thursday 20 February 2020.

Care Inspectorate annual returns open

Annual returns to the Care Inspectorate are now live. Each year, services registered with the Care Inspectorate are asked to complete an annual return and provide information which assists in planning and carrying out inspections. All services must complete their annual returns electronically using the Care Inspectorate’s eForms system. All services registered before 1 October 2019 are asked to complete an annual return.

CCPS Business Resilience Survey 2019

The Coalition of Care and Support Providers in Scotland (CCPS) has published the annual Business Resilience Survey for 2019. The survey provides an overview of how third sector social care and support providers are doing based on a series of measures relating to general levels of optimism, finance, procurement and contracting and workforce issues. CCPS said the findings suggest the sector is “managing in the face of increasing pressures” and highlighted the increasing number of services requiring additional funding to be sustainable. The report also notes the trend for providers to hand back unsustainable services, suggesting the situation is unlikely to improve without intervention. The survey also explores the impact of the Scottish Living Wage on the sector.
Other

Third case study findings published by child abuse inquiry

The Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry has published its third case study findings into residential institutions run by Quarriers, Aberlour Child Care Trust, and Barnardo’s (QAB) between 1921 and 1991. The Inquiry considered evidence about the nature and extent of any abuse of children in care at institutions run by the QAB providers at various locations across Scotland, and examined any systems, policies and procedures in place at these institutions, and how these were applied.

Annual report published by SSSC

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) has published their Annual Report for 2018/19, which includes information on performance and accountability. Highlights from their work for the year include:

- an increase in the number of applications and renewals with 35% more applications received during 2018/19 than in 2017/18 (54,694 to 73,587), and 21% more registrations (127,863 from 105,352).
- the pilot of a ‘meet your regulator’ roadshow in March 2019 where registrants could meet the Chief Executive and staff from their Registration, Fitness to Practise and Learning and Development departments

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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