



Adult and Health



[Care Homes/Care at Home](#)

[Infection Prevention and Control](#)

[Mental Health](#)

[Older People](#)

[Other Health & Social Care](#)

[Other](#)

Care Homes/Care at Home

[Scottish Care issues open letter on independent care sector funding](#)

Scottish Care and the UK Homecare Association (UKHCA) have written an open letter to every health and social care partnership and local authority calling for them to consider the independent care sector when setting their budgets. The letter also highlights the concerns surrounding funding for the care at home sector.

Infection Prevention and Control

[Four nations coronavirus action plan published](#)

The Scottish Government, Welsh Government, Northern Ireland Executive, and the UK Government have jointly published an Action Plan setting out a collective approach to the ongoing outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19). In addition to this, the Scottish Government has published [Scotland-specific guidance](#) on its resilience and response arrangements, which provides further detail on how the response will be delivered and coordinated if there is a sustained epidemic.



[Joint statement from regulators on coronavirus](#)

A joint statement on regulation following the coronavirus outbreak has been issued by the Chief Executives of various health and care regulatory bodies. This includes the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC), the Nursing & Midwifery (NMC) and the General Medical Council (GMC).

Mental Health

[National review of eating disorder services announced](#)

The Scottish Government has announced a national review of eating disorder services that will begin in summer 2020 and report in spring 2021. The review will provide an overview of the current support available for those with an eating disorder, as well as making recommendations to inform improvement work throughout 2021. The review is part of a wider programme to improve performance in mental health waiting times and to support early intervention. The Mental Welfare Commission's report on eating disorder services, due to be published in the summer, will provide a foundation for the review.

[Difficulties in accessing psychological therapies highlighted in new report](#)

People with depression are struggling to access talking therapies and do not feel as involved in decisions about treatment as they would like, according to a new report from the Scottish Association for Mental Health (SAMH). The report, based on the experiences of almost 300 people who responded to an online survey or took part in a focus group event, found that 48% of respondents had not been referred for a psychological therapy and 46% had not been given any options for treatment and support.

The SAMH report was published as new [ISD figures](#) show that only one health board in Scotland is meeting the 18 week waiting times target for people to get their first appointment with an NHS psychologist. The charity is calling on the Scottish Government to review the psychological therapies waiting time target, as well as psychological therapy provision across Scotland.

Older People

[Extra funding to reduce hospital stays](#)

An initiative to let more older people receive hospital quality care at home is to receive £1 million funding from the draft Scottish Budget for 2020/21. The Scottish Government has announced the funding will support the development of 'Hospital at Home' services – which can treat patients with a wide range of conditions such as pneumonia, COPD and pulmonary embolisms, or those recovering from falls. The initiative was first implemented in Scotland in NHS Lanarkshire in 2011.

Other Health and Social Care

[Complaints handling workshops for care providers and managers](#)



In collaboration with Scottish Care, the Care Inspectorate is running a series of complaints handling workshops for care providers and managers across Scotland throughout March to May. The aim of these workshops is to increase awareness of our complaint handling process, promote an understanding of good practice guidance in dealing with complaints, and help recognise the key skills required to resolve complaints effectively.

[Health Secretary provides update on transfer of resources for integration](#)

The Local Government & Communities Committee has published a letter from Jeane Freeman providing further information on the continued transfer of resources from the health portfolio to local authorities regarding social care, as set out in the Scottish Budget 2020-21 proposals.

[Motion highlights upcoming swallowing guidance](#)

David Stewart MSP (Lab) has lodged a motion highlighting Swallowing Awareness Day, due to take place on 18 March 2020. In it, he notes the upcoming launch of joint guidance on swallowing from the Care Inspectorate, the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and Scottish Care. The guidance is aimed at care inspectors and will enable them and care providers to identify good practice and improvement opportunities to better support people with swallowing difficulties.

[Increase in delayed discharge numbers for January](#)

ISD Scotland has published statistics on delayed discharge in NHS Scotland for January 2020. There were 47,529 days spent in hospital by people whose discharge was delayed, an increase of 8% compared with the number of delayed days spent in hospital in January 2019. The average number of beds occupied per day due to delayed discharges was 1,533, compared to a daily average of 1,464 for December.

Other

[Budget for 2020/21 passed by MSPs](#)

The Scottish Government's Budget for 2020/21 has been approved by MSPs in the Scottish Parliament. The Budget, which was passed with the support of the Green Party, will provide record funding of over £15bn for health and social care, including an increase of £100m funding to £811m to support social care and integration; £117m investment in mental health; a 60% increase in funding to reduce harm from alcohol and drugs; and an additional £6.5m to support community justice.

[New Best Value guidance for local authorities](#)

New statutory guidance to help local authorities achieve Best Value has been published by the Scottish Government. The revised guidance has been produced to reflect changes to the public service landscape since previous guidance was published in 2004, placing an emphasis on personalised services, outcomes and the need for innovation. The guidance should be read in conjunction with the [statutory](#)



[guidance on community planning](#), which describes how local authorities and other public sector bodies should work together in the context of community planning.

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.

It should also be noted that the Care Inspectorate has no liability in respect of the content of external websites which may be signposted on this site.