



Adult and Health

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COVID-19 – General

[Restrictions introduced across West of Scotland](#)

Additional restrictions have been announced for Glasgow, East Renfrewshire and West Dunbartonshire for an initial two-week period following an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases. The Scottish Government has stipulated that indoor gatherings should not take place in these areas and only essential indoor visits to hospitals and care homes are to take place. Extended households and people providing care may continue to meet indoors with enhanced hygiene measures. Schools and nurseries will remain open.

[Care Inspectorate reports to the Scottish Parliament on inspections](#)

The Care Inspectorate has laid before the Scottish Parliament a report of inspections it has carried out in care services in the past two weeks. This report covers inspections completed since the previous report submitted to Parliament on 19 August. The Parliamentary report is in addition to the normal process of publishing full inspection reports.

Care Homes/Care at Home

[Home Farm care home purchased by NHS Highland](#)

NHS Highland has purchased Home Farm care home in Portree, Health Secretary Jeane Freeman has confirmed. The



purchase from provider HC-One has been secured with £900,000 of additional funding from the Scottish Government. Ms Freeman said “improvements have been made in the quality of care offered at the care home with support from the health board, the Care Inspectorate and other partners”, and suggested the future ownership “provides an assurance for people on Skye that provision of residential nursing care in their community will continue”.

[Care home visiting guidance updated to reflect forthcoming resumption](#)

Updated guidance on care home visiting has been published by the Scottish Government. The guidance has been revised to reflect that health and wellbeing visits to care homes can resume from 7 September. It sets out how care home visiting may be re-introduced while minimising the risks to residents, staff and visitors, recommending care homes takes a staged approach, where stage 1 – essential visits only - has been in operation throughout the pandemic. [Guidance for Clinical and Professional staff](#) has also been published.

- The Scottish Human Rights Commission had earlier [written on](#) the human rights considerations that should inform new guidance on visiting.

[NICE consults on draft guidance on safeguarding adults in care homes \(England\)](#)

Draft guidance on safeguarding adults in care homes has been put out for consultation by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). The new guideline will provide practical advice for residents, staff and anyone who spends time with adults in care homes, including family, friends or professionals who may visit. The draft guidance suggests that a staff member or visitor should ‘consider’ abuse or neglect in situations where there may be another possible explanation for a resident’s physical or emotional state.

Mental Health

[Interim report from Independent Forensic Mental Health Review](#)

An interim report setting out evidence gathered by the Independent Forensic Mental Health Review has been published by the Scottish Government. The report sets out issues raised by respondents under two themes: capacity (including funding, availability of NHS forensic beds, out of area placements and community resources) and variation across the system (including variations in forensic services in secure hospitals, variations in community forensic services, and oversight and governance).

[Mental Welfare Commission publishes report on eating disorder care and support](#)

A new report looking at care, treatment and support for people with an eating disorder has been published by the Mental Welfare Commission. The report includes a mapping exercise showing significant variation in the organisation of services across the country. Key findings include inequalities of service across the country, a often a lack of support or delays in accessing services (particularly in the community), and concerns about the focus on BMI as a criteria for referral.



[Latest Mental Welfare Commission advice note published](#)

The Mental Welfare Commission has published the latest update of its advice note on mental health care and treatment in the context of the pandemic. The note is designed for practitioners who are using the Mental Health Act and Adults with Incapacity Act when caring for patients.

[Pass the Parcel campaign launched by charity](#)

People are being encouraged to 'Pass the Parcel' as part of a campaign launched by mental health charity See Me. The campaign urges people to send a parcel to someone they care about, or someone they think might be struggling, to show them that it is good to talk about mental health and not something that people should feel ashamed or embarrassed to speak about.

Other Health and Social Care

[Scottish Government publishes Programme for Scotland 2020 - 2021](#)

The Scottish Government has published its Programme for Scotland, setting out its plans for the coming parliamentary year. The Scottish Government plans to:

- “immediately” establish “a comprehensive and fundamental independent review of adult social care”, which will consider a National Care Service and report by January 2021
- take forward “immediate improvements”, working to:
 - set standards for how adult social care assessments and allocation of resources are carried out so that people accessing support “are fully involved in decision making and experience greater consistency and transparency”
 - complete a review of care services definitions, developing new definitions for registered services and care roles to “enable social care support services and workers to be more flexible and responsive to people’s needs, to work more autonomously, and to work with others across professions”
 - work with Integration Authorities and Local Authorities to ensure planning and purchasing of social care support is focused on flexible and person centred support
- move to the position where Near Me is the default for health and social care consultations and develop use of Near Me in social care, with an initial priority on use in care homes - this will be taken forward as part of a wider Digital in Care Homes Action Plan
- expand mental health and wellbeing support for health and social care staff, including the development of a Health and Social Care Mental Health Network and enhanced access to digital resources.



[Independent adult social care review to begin immediately and report by January](#)

The Scottish Government has announced the immediate establishment of an independent review on reform of adult social care services. Speaking in Parliament, Health Secretary Jeane Freeman announced that the review will:

- build on reform of adult social care underway in conjunction with COSLA
- include in its scope how adult social care is organised, commissioned, regulated and funded
- aim to improve outcomes for people who use services and ensure a good working environment for the workforce
- take a human rights based approach with strong emphasis placed on the needs, rights and preferences of people who use services, their families and their carers.

The full [terms of reference](#) for the review have since been published. The review, due to report by January 2021, will be chaired by Derek Feeley, former Director General of Health and Social Care in the Scottish Government. He will be supported by: former Auditor General Caroline Gardner; former Minister Malcolm Chisholm; and leaders from the Centre for Better Ageing, Learning and Innovation in Jönköping County, Sweden, COSLA and the ALLIANCE.

[Guidance to support re-opening of day services for adults published](#)

New guidance to support the safe re-opening and delivery of building-based day services for adults has been published by the Scottish Government. The core public health measures that underpin the reopening of services are: enhanced infection control measures; appropriate use of PPE; limiting contacts both indoors and outdoors in line with the household rules for the general public; maximizing the use of outdoor spaces; physical distancing; active engagement with Test and Protect. In partnership with Shared Care Scotland, we have also produced an operational guide [Back to Business - a guide for the reopening of day services for adults in Scotland](#).

[Scottish Government calls for social care roles to be on Shortage Occupation List](#)

Social care roles should be added to the UK Shortage Occupation List (SOL), according to the Scottish Government in its response to a call for evidence by the Migration Advisory Committee. The response highlights that social work and residential care sectors are heavily reliant on migrants, the majority of whom would not qualify for a visa under the proposed 'skilled worker' route. The Scottish Government said the addition to the SOL would help prevent a labour shortage in the sector.

[Work on community engagement and participation guidance to restart](#)

The development of Community Engagement and Participation Guidance for Health and Social Care is to be restarted this month with an aim to publish in January. Health Secretary Jeane Freeman confirmed the new timeline after the work was paused in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



[RCN campaign calls for 'fair pay' for nurses across the UK](#)

A campaign calling for “fair pay” for nursing staff across the UK has been launched by the Royal College of Nursing (RCN). The campaign seeks to secure a 12.5% pay increase for all staff covered by Agenda for Change, as part of a one-year deal that applies equally to all bands. Though the initial focus is on an immediate pay rise for NHS nursing staff, the campaign also seeks to benefit those working for independent employers.

[Pilot 'negotiated stopping' model for working with Gypsy/Travellers launched](#)

A pilot 'negotiated stopping' model for working with Gypsy/Travellers has been launched by COSLA. The national pilot is designed to facilitate improved communication between local authorities and communities, providing practical ways that councils, police, health services and other agencies can provide safe facilities.

[NMC to resume in-person Fitness to Practice hearings](#)

The Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) has published information on how it will safely and fairly resume in-person Fitness to Practise (FtP) hearings from 14 September. FtP work was temporarily paused during the height of the pandemic but gradual resumption is planned as restrictions ease.

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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