




Adult and Health



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COVID-19 - General

[Lockdown extended to end of February](#)

In her statement to parliament this week, Nicola Sturgeon announced the current lockdown, including the requirement to stay at home, would remain in place until at least the end of February. The First Minister outlined progress on the vaccination programme:

- 98% of elderly care home residents, 83% of over 80s in the community and 21% of over 75s have been vaccinated with the first dose
- The 65-69 age group will begin to receive appointments from this week. 60-64 year olds and unpaid carers will receive appointments from the third week of February
- Daily vaccinations are expected to increase with the use of mass vaccination centres for younger groups

The First Minister set out a further expansion of testing and announced eligibility for the Self-Isolation Support Grant would be extended to everyone with an income below the level of the real living wage.



[Latest COVID-19 statistics](#)

Public Health Scotland has published its weekly data on COVID-19. From 8 December 2020 to 31 January 2021, 575,739 individuals received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccination, as reported in the Vaccination Management Tool. As at 31 January 2021, there have been 180,532 confirmed COVID-19 cases, with 6,747 in the week ending 31 January. During the week ending 31 January, there were active confirmed cases of COVID-19 in 203 out of 1,053 care homes that returned data (1,065 care homes in total).

Alcohol and Drugs

[Funding to increase drug rehabilitation services](#)

NHS boards have received £3 million to increase residential drug rehabilitation provision as part of the Scottish Government's action to tackle drug related deaths. Integration Authorities have been allocated funding based on the number of drug deaths in each area to spend through Alcohol and Drugs Partnerships. The money will be distributed as follows:

- 65 per cent on increasing residential rehabilitation and aftercare
- 20 per cent on improving access to harm reduction services such as naloxone, heroin-assisted treatment and opiate substitute therapy
- 15 per cent on improving access to treatment

Alzheimer's/Dementia

[Additional support for free personal and nursing care](#)

The Scottish Government has announced changes to the rates of allowances received by adults who self-fund their residential care. Regulations laid in Parliament will raise these allowances by 7.5 per cent, in recognition of the increasing cost of providing care, particularly for people with dementia. The change is backed by an additional £10.1 million in local authority funding to cover the increases.

Care Homes/Care at Home

[COVID-19 rules broken by care homes despite outbreaks \(England\)](#)

The Guardian reports that 40 per cent of care homes inspected by the Care Quality Commission in the last month were judged to be inadequate or in need of improvement. The article suggests several care homes handling fatal COVID-19 outbreaks had failed to ensure PPE was used correctly, allowed infected residents to mix in communal areas or were forced to deal with "chronic" staff shortages.



Justice

[Annual report monitoring places of detention](#)

The UK Government's Ministry of Justice has published the 'UK National Preventive Mechanism annual report: 2019 to 2020', an overview of political, policy and legislative developments that relate to the treatment of people in detention and otherwise deprived of their liberty.

Mental Health

[Next phase of recovery strategy for Scotland](#)

The Scottish Recovery Network has published the findings from its national engagement programme, which gathered views on a vision and strategy for mental health recovery. The network will share these findings with the Scottish Government, all those who participated in the engagement, and through their networks. They will work with the government and others to agree on a refreshed vision and strategy for recovery in Scotland.

Other Health and Social Care

[Adult social care review published](#)

The Scottish Government has published the findings of the Independent Review of Adult Social Care in Scotland. The Review was led by former Director General for Health and Social Care Derek Feeley, supported by an Advisory Panel comprising Scottish and International experts, to recommend improvements to adult social care in Scotland. The Review recommends the establishment of a National Care Service, setting out how it could "drive consistent, high quality social care support in partnership with people who have a right to receive that support, unpaid carers and the workforce".

- A number of organisations have commented on the review's findings including the [Coalition of Care and Support Providers Scotland](#), [Scottish Care](#) and the [ALLIANCE](#).

[Podcast looks at Near me in social services](#)

The latest episode of the Iriss podcast focuses on Near Me in social services and the work carried out by Iriss, the NHS and the Scottish Government Technology Enabled Care programme. A transcript of the podcast is also available.



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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