




Adult and Health



[COVID-19 - General](#)

[Alcohol and Drugs](#)

[Alzheimer's/Dementia](#)

[Infection Prevention and Control](#)

[Learning Disabilities](#)

[Other Health & Social Care](#)

[Other](#)

COVID-19 - General

[Further easing of restrictions](#)

This week the First Minister announced a further easing of restrictions for some local authorities. She said from Saturday, Glasgow would move into Level 2, after case numbers fell slightly in recent days from 146 cases to 129 cases per 100,000 people. She said that although hospital admissions were rising, they were not increasing as fast as they might have done from a similar level of cases earlier in the year. However, she also said that East Dunbartonshire, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire, East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, Edinburgh, Midlothian, Stirling, Clackmannanshire and Dundee will all remain in Level 2, due to a higher case rate and more time needed to vaccinate more people. The rest of mainland Scotland will move into Level 1, while all islands in Level 1 will move into Level 0.



[One-dose vaccine approved](#)

The one-dose Covid-19 vaccine developed by Janssen has been given regulatory approval by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, the UK Government has confirmed. The MHRA approval authorises the use of the vaccine in people aged 18 and over. The decision on whether to use the vaccine in pregnant or breast-feeding women should be made in consultation with a healthcare professional after considering the benefits and risks.

[Public Health Scotland update on Covid-19](#)

The latest weekly data from Public Health Scotland on Covid-19 shows as at 30 May 2021, there have been 235,911 confirmed COVID-19 cases, with 3,387. In the week ending 30 May, under the Community Testing Programme 9.3 per cent of symptomatic and 4.3 per cent of asymptomatic tests for COVID-19 were positive. On vaccinations, in those aged 40 and over, vaccine uptake is highest in white ethnic groups (91 per cent) and lowest in African ethnic groups (66 per cent). Uptake also varied by area of deprivation, with uptake up to 89 per cent for those aged 40 and over in the less deprived areas compared to 82 per cent in more deprived areas.

Alcohol and Drugs

[New standards for medication assisted drug treatment](#)

New evidence based standards have been published by the Scottish Government to enable the consistent delivery of safe, accessible, high quality drug treatment across Scotland. The Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) standards are in line with the vision for NHS Scotland that by 2025 anyone providing health and social care will take a realistic medicine approach. Implementation of the MAT standards is a rights-based approach and follows the principles of the Scottish Government Health & Social Care Standards: my support, my life, dignity and respect, compassion, inclusion and support to wellbeing.

[Self-management toolkit for alcohol related brain damage](#)

The mental health charity Penumbra has launched a self-management toolkit for people living with alcohol related brain damage (ARBD). The toolkit was developed with residents at two ARBD services in Scotland and provides medical information about the condition and alcohol use, as well as key practical and holistic information on recovery.

Alzheimer's/Dementia

[Provider for next cohort of Dementia Champions](#)

Alzheimer Scotland Centre for Policy and Practice (ASCPP) at the University of the West of Scotland has been announced as the provider for the next cohort of Dementia Champions. The new programme will take account of the pandemic and aims to prepare Dementia Champions with the knowledge and skills they need to care for patients in hospital in the current COVID-19 environment.



Infection Prevention and Control

[New quality assurance service for healthcare facilities](#)

The Scottish Government has announced a new service to improve the quality and management of healthcare construction and refurbishment projects in the NHS, which will work with health boards to ensure buildings are designed with infection prevention and control practice in mind. NHS Scotland Assure brings together experts to improve quality and support the design, construction and maintenance of major healthcare developments. The interdisciplinary team will include microbiologists, infection prevention and control nurses, architects, planners, and engineers.

Learning Disabilities

[Opportunities for new ways of working highlighted in report](#)

A report by the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services focuses on the impact of the pandemic on adults with learning disabilities and/or autism, their family carers and service provision. They make a number of recommendations for the future, suggesting the health and social care sector is “ready for new priorities” and potential new ways of working. This includes a move away from building-based services, and the report calls for investment in enablement and independence within communities, as well as well-planned transitions between children’s and adults’ social care services.

Other Health and Social Care

[Peer support service for social workers](#)

The Scottish Association of Social Work and Scottish Government have launched a free peer support service for social workers, offering staff a space to discuss any personal or professional issues they may be facing. The news follows a survey by the Social Workers’ Benevolent Trust which found an overwhelming number of social workers are experiencing mental health problems.

[Funding for early implementation of NQSW Supported Year available](#)

Funding for the early implementation of the mandatory newly qualified social worker (NQSW) Supported Year is now available. The Scottish Social Services Council has highlighted that all local authority, independent and third sector NQSW employers can apply for funding. The Scottish Government has allocated £300,000 to support employers with early implementation of the NQSW Supported Year.

[Presentations and digital stories available from SSSC social work practice webinar](#)

Presentations and digital stories from a recent social work practice learning webinar have been published by the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC). The webinars,



a partnership with the Social Work Education Partnership, focused on responses to social work practice learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Discussion on proposals for social care reform](#)

A blog has been published by Audit Scotland's Antony Clark, Interim Controller of Audit, and Interim Director of Performance Audit and Best Value on social care reform. The blog discusses the Scottish Government's potential approaches to delivering the Feeley report and creating a National Care Service, noting the potential barriers of delayed health and social care integration and current adult social care workers' pay conditions.

[Importance of transitional safeguarding \(England\)](#)

The UK Government's Department of Health & Social Care has published a joint, independent briefing setting out the importance of transitional safeguarding within adult social work. The briefing is for people involved in safeguarding adults and social work. It is relevant to practitioners, senior leaders and other social care professionals providing support across local safeguarding partnerships, and the briefing describes what transitional safeguarding is, why it is needed and how the contribution of adult social work is essential to developing and embedding a more transitional approach to safeguarding young people into adulthood. There is also a focus on sexual and criminal exploitation.

Other

[Iriss marks Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month 2021](#)

Gypsy Roma and Traveller History Month takes place across June to raise awareness of the minority ethnic communities and celebrate their contribution to society. Iriss has highlighted a range of resources relating to social work's role and the need for culturally sensitive practice and public services.

[Public Health Scotland publishes Delivery Plan and End of Year report](#)

Public Health Scotland (PHS) has published its Delivery Plan for the year ahead alongside its first End of Year report. The End of Year report reflects the priorities set in the organisation's Strategic Plan 2020-23, while the Delivery Plan outlines PHS' next steps in delivering on its aim to reduce inequalities and see people live longer, healthier lives. PHS has also published a new [digital and data strategy](#).

**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.