

19 – 25 June 2021



### Covid-19 - General

#### [Major Covid-19 restrictions to end 9 August](#)

The First Minister has confirmed Scotland is seeking to remove all major legal Covid restrictions from Monday 9 August. Current levels will remain in place for the next three weeks, while the whole of Scotland will move to level 0 on Monday 19 July if all necessary vaccination and harm reduction measures are met. The First Minister also confirmed that from Monday 19 July physical distancing requirements will be removed outdoors and will reduce to one metre indoors if the data allows. Limits on outdoor gatherings will also be removed on this date given the reduced risk of outdoor transmission. The Government has also published an update to the [strategic framework](#) for its Covid-19 response and its [review of physical distancing](#).

#### [Coronavirus \(Extension and Expiry\) \(Scotland\) Bill passed](#)

The Scottish Government's Coronavirus (Extension and Expiry) (Scotland) Bill has been passed after being fast-tracked through the Scottish Parliament. The Bill will extend Part 1 of both the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020 and Coronavirus (No. 2) (Scotland) Act 2020 until 31 March 2022. The Bill also expires certain changes made in Part 1 of each of the Scottish Acts so that these will not continue to be the law after 30 September 2021. Following debate and amendment, it was agreed that the fortnightly monitoring and weekly reporting of deaths in care homes would be suspended rather than expired. Provisions on electronic notices by the Care Inspectorate and powers to acquire a care home are among those to be extended.

[Covid-19 - General](#)
[Alcohol and Drugs](#)
[Care Homes/Care at Home](#)
[End of Life/Palliative Care](#)
[Learning Disabilities](#)
[Other Health & Social Care](#)



### [Chief Nursing Officer highlights social care guidance on face masks](#)

The Chief Nursing Officer has written to registered adult social care providers to highlight an update to guidance on use of face coverings in these settings. After listening to feedback and concerns from providers, the guidance has been changed to separate social care guidance from hospital and primary care settings guidance. The new social care guidance can be accessed [online](#). It states residents are not required to wear a Fluid Resistant Surgical Mask or face covering within the care home, but also suggests residents may benefit from wearing one as a “final layer of protection” in certain circumstances.

### [First vaccine doses ahead of schedule](#)

The Scottish Government has confirmed that all adults in Scotland will have been booked in for their first Covid-19 vaccine appointment by 27 June, five weeks ahead of schedule. Letters are currently going out to those 18-29 year olds who didn't sign up to the self-registration portal, while anyone who hasn't yet received their blue envelope can see their vaccination time online through a new appointment checker.

### [Letter on vaccination access for health and social care frontline staff](#)

The Scottish Government has issued a letter with information on the processes for scheduling vaccinations of the frontline health and social care workforce. This particularly relates to those new to a service since the commencement of the Covid-19 Vaccination Programme (those not already vaccinated as part of the JCVI priority group, or within their age range).

### [Care Inspectorate report to the Scottish Parliament on inspections, 23 June 2021](#)

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 we have completed since those detailed in our previous report to Parliament on 9 June 2021.

## **Alcohol and Drugs**

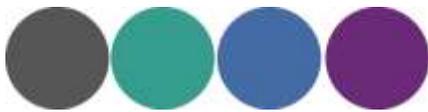
### [Policy paper on role of pharmacy in reducing drug harm](#)

A policy paper on the role of pharmacy in reducing drug harms and preventing drug-related death in Scotland has been published by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society. The report makes a number of recommendations on issues including the availability of naloxone in community pharmacies, access to patient records and regulated Supervised Drug Consumption Rooms.

## **Care Homes/Care at Home**

### [Consultation on review of care home design guidance](#)

The Care Inspectorate is consulting on design guidance for care homes. As part of the review of the Building Better Care Homes guidance, we would like to hear from



all those with an interest in this topic. The consultation, which runs until 18 July, is the first to feature on our new consultation website. Anyone can sign up to take part, give their views and receive updates on this and future consultation projects.

### [Guidance for care homes on uploading lateral flow test results](#)

Guidance for care homes on uploading lateral flow test results and utilising bar code scanners has been published by the Scottish Government. The guidance also notes that in the coming months care homes will be provided with lateral flow testing kits that will come in smaller boxes of seven kits but care homes will continue to use the Innova LFD kits of 25 tests until the new stock is available.

## **End of Life/Palliative Care**

### [Consultation on future of palliative care](#)

The ALLIANCE has highlighted a consultation by the Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care on proposals to improve people's experiences of living with long term illness, dying and bereavement. The consultation runs until 16 July. Respondents are asked to comment on the major issues affecting care and support and proposals for change set out by the Partnership.

## **Learning Disabilities**

### [CQC report on caring for people with learning disabilities during pandemic \(England\)](#)

A report on caring for people with learning disabilities during the pandemic has been published by the Care Quality Commission (CQC). The report looks ahead to a forthcoming provider collaboration review on people with a learning disability living in the community, which looks at how services have worked together to meet people's needs. It also updates data on deaths in care homes and people detained under the Mental Health Act in England.

## **Other Health and Social Care**

### [New Bill to increase Carer's Allowance introduced](#)

A Bill to increase the carer's allowance supplement for the period from 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022 has been introduced by the Scottish Government. The Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018 set the initial amount that carers would receive for this period. The Carer's Allowance Supplement (Scotland) Bill will increase this amount by £231.40. The Scottish Government also plans to introduce a new benefit to support carers, replacing carer's allowance and the supplement.

### [Report on future of social care data published by Scottish Care](#)

A report setting out a vision for social care data has been published by Scottish Care. Seeing the diamond in social care data brings together findings from Scottish Care's series of data forums and involved representatives from across social care, industry, academia and government. The report highlights the importance of a



human rights-based perspective, enabling people to have control over their data and how it is shared to initiate care and support on their own terms.

### [Report on learning from provider-led collaborations published by CCPS](#)

A report on learning from provider-led collaborations in Scotland's social care sector has been published by the Coalition of Care and Support Providers (CCPS). In 2019, the Building Collaboration Fund provided funding to six existing collaborations working to provide care and support and created a facilitated space for peer learning, development and the sharing of good practice between each of the collaboratives. The report brings together learning from participants and provides insight into the behaviours, skills and attitudes required to collaborate effectively.

### [SSSC add new strategic outcome promoting value of the workforce](#)

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) has introduced a new outcome to its strategic plan to promote the value placed on the social work, social care and early years workforce. The outcome, added to the SSSC Strategic Plan 2020-23, is designed to reflect and build on the wider recognition of the social work, social care and early years workforce which has emerged during the Covid-19 pandemic.

#### **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.