

17 - 23 July 2021







Covid-19 - General

Alzheimer's/Dementia

Care Homes/Care at Home

Mental Health

Other Health & Social Care

Covid-19 - General

First vaccine dose milestone reached

The Scottish Government has confirmed that by 18 July, the vaccination programme completed its first doses for all over 18s who attended their scheduled appointments. Second doses continue to be scheduled and it is expected all adults will have received them by Sunday 12 September.

Self-isolation rules end for health and social care staff (England)

The UK Government has announced that some frontline NHS and social care staff will be able to attend work rather than selfisolate, under strict testing conditions. Staff who have received both vaccines and have a negative PCR test, plus daily negative lateral flow tests for a minimum of seven days, prior to starting work each day. The decision should be made on a case-bycase basis, and only after a risk assessment by the organisation's management.



Carer payment guidance for Shared Lives

The Scottish Government has published guidance on the social care workforce payment process for the Shared Lives Scheme.

Alzheimer's/Dementia

Advice on dehydration in people with dementia during hot weather

The Alzheimer's Society has published advice on how to support somebody living with dementia in hot weather. The charity warns that the heat can cause discomfort and a risk of dehydration. The guidance also highlights that some medications and dementia-related illnesses can worsen dehydration.

Care Homes/Care at Home

CQC publishes data on Covid-19 death notifications

The Care Quality Commission has published data showing death notifications involving Covid-19 received from individual care homes between 10 April 2020 and 31 March 2021. An insight report is also available which draws from the data to make key findings and provide context for understanding what the statistics say.

Mental Health

Third interim report published by Mental Health Review

The Scottish Mental Health Law Review has published a third interim report. The report outlines some of the progress made, as well as suggestions as to how the purpose and principles of mental health law might look if recast with particular regard to United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). The Review is scheduled to complete its work by September 2022.

Other Health and Social Care

Group established to set social covenant for National Care Service

The Scottish Government's Social Covenant Steering Group, set up to help guide the development of a National Care Service, met for the first time yesterday. The group is expected to help establish a common set of values and beliefs – a social covenant - which will underpin the National Care Service, including treating people with dignity, prioritising the common good and ensuring there is strong oversight of the new service. The group is chaired by Kevin Stewart, Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care. The Scottish Government has also announced that a consultation document on the National Care Service will be published on 9 August and run until 18 October.

MHRA urgent safety alert: Accora Advanced chair



The MHRA (Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency) have issued an urgent safety alert for the Accora Advanced chair which is used in care settings for adults. A copy of the safety notice can be found <u>here.</u> Any care setting with these chairs in use should undertake the corrective action outlined in the safety notice to ensure the chair is safe for use.

Survey highlights social workers' experience of racism

The Scottish Association of Social Work has published survey findings which suggest nearly 90 per cent of black and minoritised ethnic social workers have experienced racism. The survey also shows when these incidents are reported, organisations are often "unprepared and uncomfortable" which leads to ineffective responses. Further issues raised in the report include a lack of black and minority ethnic representation among social work lecturers and leadership.

Collaboration with police to improve public health outcomes

Public Health Scotland and Police Scotland have joined forces to launch a new approach to addressing public health and wellbeing in communities. A Collaboration Framework is being agreed by senior leaders at both organisations, with a specific focus on mental health and wellbeing, supporting local systems, data and analysis.

Minister responds to CQC report on restraint (England)

The Department of Health and Social Care has responded to the Care Quality Commission's recent report on restraint, segregation and seclusion which raised concerns about the treatment of people with a learning disability and/or mental health condition, or autistic people. Minister of State for Care, Helen Whately, highlighted the Government-commissioned review of restraint, seclusion and segregation and confirmed her Department would take forward the CQC's recommendations.

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 <u>Newsdirect</u>, <u>Community Care</u>, <u>Children & Young People Now</u> and <u>ISD</u> <u>Scotland</u>.

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



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