

28 August – 3 September 2021







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Covid-19 - General

Public inquiry into pandemic

The Scottish Government has published a paper setting out the draft aims and principles of an independent public inquiry into the handling of the Covid-19 pandemic in Scotland. The proposed inquiry would be established by the end of the year, to scrutinise decisions taken in the course of this pandemic, and learn lessons for future pandemics.

Advice on third vaccine dose

The UK Government's Department of Health and Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has advised that a third vaccine dose should be offered to people aged 12 years old and over with severe immunosuppression. This group includes those with blood cancer, advanced HIV and recent organ or stem-cell transplants. The UK Government has accepted the recommendations and confirmed the NHS will contact these individuals to discuss their needs and arrange an appointment where clinically appropriate.



Vaccination certification

The Scottish Government has published proposals for Coronavirus vaccination certificates, which would be required to enter nightclubs, unseated indoor live events with over 500 people, unseated outdoor live events with over 4,000 people, and any event with over 10,000 people in attendance. There are no plans to introduce this to the wider hospitality industry and children and adults ineligible for vaccination will be exempt. From Friday 3 September, people will be able to download a PDF copy of their certificate with a QR code for use domestically or internationally.

Alcohol and Drugs

Public awareness campaign on signs of a drug overdose

The Scottish Government and the Scottish Drugs Forum have launched a campaign to raise awareness of the signs of a drug overdose and the role naloxone can play in reversing the effects. The campaign aims to inform the public how to respond to an overdose and provide an early intervention.

Alzheimer's/Dementia

Plans for outdoor dementia centre

Alzheimer Scotland has plans to launch an outdoor dementia centre to enable people with dementia and their family carers to experience the mental and physical benefits of spending time outdoors. Following a pilot group with activities such as woodlands walks, wildlife surveys and wood carving, the centre is planned to be opened at Badaguish Outdoor Centre, Aviemore.

Care Homes/Care at Home

Care Inspectorate report 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. For each care service inspected, inspection reports will be published by the Care Inspectorate in due course. To meet the timescales imposed by legislation, the report to Parliament outlines high-level findings following oral feedback to care providers.

Interim suspension of Glasgow care home

Following the Sheriff Court ordering an interim suspension of the care provider's registration at Rowandale Nursing Home in Glasgow, the Care Inspectorate is working closely with partners at Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership and the Scottish Government to ensure residents of the home experience a safe transition to new care arrangements. All residents have now moved from Rowandale.



Learning Disabilities

App to understand human rights

The Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities (SCLD) has launched a new app, 'Human Rights Town', designed to help people with learning disabilities to understand their human rights. The app invites users to travel around a virtual 'Human Rights Town' where they encounter different scenarios at each location, such as using public transport or working at the supermarket.

Other Health and Social Care

Consultation on a National Care Service

The Scottish Government has published a consultation on A National Care Service for Scotland, proposing that the National Care Service will define the strategic direction and quality standards for community health and social care in Scotland. The proposals will also take forward the recommendations of the Independent Review of Adult Social Care around:

- ensuring that care is person-centred and human rights based
- providing greater recognition and support for unpaid carers
- improving conditions for the workforce
- commissioning for public good
- more effective approaches to scrutiny and improvement of social care services

The consultation will run until 2 November 2021.

Workforce

Workforce data report

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) has published their workforce data for 2020. Key points from the report include:

- The size of the workforce has increased to 209,690, a rise of 1.6% since 2019
- The social service workforce makes up approximately 8.0% of all Scottish employment
- The whole time equivalent (WTE) measure of the workforce is 159,260, an increase of 2.6% since 2019
- The three largest sub-sectors are housing support/care at home, care homes for adults and day care of children; together these account for almost 79% of the workforce



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 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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