




Adult and Health



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Covid-19 - General

[Introduction of vaccine certification](#)

The Scottish Government has confirmed that the vaccine certification scheme will be introduced on Friday 1 October, but legal enforcement will not come into effect until Monday 18 October. People will have to show proof of their vaccination status to enter a range of late night venues and larger indoor and outdoor live events, such as music festivals or large sporting events.

[Guidance on vaccine certification scheme](#)

The Scottish Government has published guidance for businesses and event organisers on the vaccine certification scheme operates and what they need to do.

[Report on the vaccination programme](#)

Audit Scotland has published a report on the Covid-19 vaccination programme, reportedly showing that the programme has made “excellent” progress in vaccinating a large majority of the adult population. However, uptake has been lower amongst young people, those in the most deprived areas and those from some ethnic minority backgrounds.



[Autumn/Winter strategy for vaccinations](#)

The Scottish Government has published a strategy outlining their progress on COVID-19 vaccinations and plans for COVID-19 and seasonal influenza (flu) vaccinations in autumn and winter 2021 to 2022 in Scotland.

[Proposal for mandatory vaccine certification \(England\)](#)

The UK Government has published a policy proposal for mandatory vaccine certification as a contingency measure under the government's Autumn and Winter Plan. The government is asking for views on its proposals by 11 October.

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.

[Scottish Government launch consultation on Anne's Law](#)

The Scottish Government has launched a consultation seeking views on proposals for delivering Anne's Law in primary legislation, to ensure that people who live in adult care homes have rights to see and spend time with the people who are important to them. The consultation which will close on **2 November**, will explore a range of legal and practical considerations and ensure any changes brought in are effective. These include how the new legislation will affect the competing rights and needs of others, including other care home residents and staff.

[Safe Staffing Project - Open Badge now available](#)

The Care Inspectorate's Safe Staffing Project team is delivering a series of quality improvement collaborative events for care homes for older people, providers and other stakeholders, which develops the knowledge and confidence of participants in the guiding principle and duties of the Health and Care (Staffing) (Scotland) Act 2019. To recognise participation in this learning opportunity, the project team, in partnership with the SSSC, has developed an Open Badge - a digital certificate which recognises learning and achievement.

[Care at home malnutrition screening pack now available](#)

As part of Malnutrition Awareness Week from 11 October, Eat Well Age Well is launching its [Care at Home: Malnutrition Screening Pack](#). The Care Inspectorate is delighted to support this resource in the care at home sector as good practice to help care at home staff feel confident in understanding, identifying and addressing when a person's diet is not meeting their nutritional needs. The screening pack contains guidance along with tools and information to help services put this into practice.



Join Care Inspectorate staff for an online session on 12 October to raise awareness of the pack and how it can help care at home staff in their day to day practice. Register [here](#).

[Data on hospital discharges to care homes at start of the pandemic](#)

BBC Scotland has published data released under freedom of information from Public Health Scotland on hospital discharges between March and May 2020 to care homes. The data reportedly shows what proportion of people discharged were untested or positive and what proportion of beds might have been occupied by discharged patients.

Disabilities

[Advocacy service for disabled people](#)

A new advocacy service for disabled people has been announced by the Scottish Government. The service will be operational in 2022 and will offer advocacy support to disabled people looking to access Scottish social security benefits.

Justice

[Consultation on review of the National Strategy for Community Justice launched](#)

The Scottish Government has opened a consultation as part of the review of the National Strategy for Community Justice. The consultation, which is primarily intended for partners engaged in or with a direct interest in the current strategy, seeks views on the current vision, mission statement and principles, its impact, and future priorities for community justice. The deadline for responses is **8 November**.

[Report into mental healthcare in prisons \(England and Wales\)](#)

The House of Commons Justice Committee has published a report on its inquiry into 'Mental health in prison', looking at mental illness in prisons in England and Wales. The report examines the need for mental healthcare in prisons, commissioning and models of care, mental illness in prison, and use of prison to accommodate mentally ill people because community care is not available.

Mental Health

[Continued investment in See Me announced](#)

The national programme to eliminate mental health stigma and discrimination has been awarded £5 million of Scottish Government funding for five years. The continuing investment in See Me, which has been announced alongside the launch of their new strategy, [With Fairness in Mind](#), will allow See Me to carry on their work as part of the wider national response to the mental health impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.



[Suicide prevention strategy questionnaire launched](#)

The Scottish Government and COSLA have launched a Suicide Prevention Strategy Development questionnaire, following their joint commitment to developing a new suicide prevention strategy for Scotland. The questionnaire forms one part of the first stage of engagement to develop the strategy. In addition to the questionnaire, there are online events where people can share their thoughts and ideas, with details of these events and how to attend them on the [COSLA website](#). The questionnaire will close on **21 November** and a working group will then use these responses to inform the development of the strategy to be published in September 2022.

[Monitoring report for the Mental Health Act](#)

The Mental Welfare Commission has published 'Mental Health Act monitoring report 2020-21', examining detentions under the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 and also comparing levels of detention against deprivation. Reportedly finding a link between detention for serious mental ill health and poverty, and also a "significant" rise in numbers of people being detained for mental health treatment.

Other Health and Social Care

[Joint Inspection of Adult Support and Protection in Argyll and Bute Partnership](#)

The Care Inspectorate, Healthcare Improvement Scotland and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) have published a 'Joint Inspection of Adult Support and Protection in the Argyll and Bute Partnership'. The focus of this inspection was on whether adults at risk of harm in the Argyll and Bute area were safe, protected and supported. A key strength outlined in the report is that adults at risk of harm were safer due to effective multi-agency working, and amongst other priority areas for improvement, the report recommends that all adults at risk of harm should have a risk assessment, which is comprehensive.

[Free social work peer support coaching](#)

Iriss has published guidance on accessing free and confidential peer coaching for social workers through the Social Work Professional Support Service. The service gives social workers a space to talk and think through any personal or professional issues they may be facing, with a trained volunteer coach who is also a social worker. Social workers who want to support their peers can also volunteer to become coaches themselves and receive training in coaching and mentoring.

[NMC launch new research survey](#)

The Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) has launched a new survey reflecting on how it engages with different groups of people, with the aim of strengthening its relationship with the profession and ensuring that it is getting its support right. Building on research undertaken in 2019, the work will target professionals, students, partner bodies, employers and politicians.



[Healthcare whistleblowing report published](#)

Healthcare professional regulators, namely the General Chiropractic Council, General Optical Council, General Medical Council, General Dental Council, General Osteopathic Council, General Pharmaceutical Council, Health & care Professions Council, and Nursing and Midwifery Council, have published their annual whistleblowing disclosures report for 2021. The joint report contains sections for each regulator which detail whistleblowing disclosures received from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 and actions taken in response to disclosures, plus any learning from disclosures.

[Launch of body to replace Public Health England \(England\)](#)

The launch of the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities is being highlighted by the UK Government, which replaces Public Health England. The new body aims to coordinate a programme to drive improvements in the public's health.

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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