

2 - 8 October 2021



bulletin



Adult and Health



[Covid-19 - General](#)

[Alcohol and Drugs](#)

[Care Homes/Care at Home](#)

[Homelessness](#)

[Justice](#)

[Mental Health](#)

[Workforce](#)

[Other Health & Social Care](#)

Covid-19 - General

[Covid Recovery Strategy published by the Scottish Government](#)

A strategy setting out the Scottish Government's plans for recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic has been published by the Scottish Government. The Covid Recovery Strategy aims to address systemic inequalities made worse by Covid, improve people's wellbeing, and remobilise public services to be more focused on people's needs, building on lessons learned during the pandemic. Actions include ensuring staff delivering direct adult social care are paid at least the real Living Wage, with additional funding of £64.5 million this year.

Alcohol and Drugs

[Report on Covid testing and vaccination in rehab settings](#)

A report providing an improved estimate of current Covid testing and vaccination in residential rehabilitation settings has been published by the Scottish Government. Of the 20 facilities surveyed, 17 replied, with 94% reporting testing of staff. However, only 47% reported testing of residents. Currently visitors are being tested at five facilities; however, a number of those not testing do not allow visitors within the facility. 86% of members of staff at residential rehabilitation facilities had received their first dose of a COVID vaccination and 57% of residents at these facilities had received their first dose. 71% of surveyed facilities reported isolating residents upon arrival.



[Conservative Leader proposes legislation to enshrine right to addiction treatment](#)

A Bill to enshrine the right to necessary addiction treatment in Scots Law and to set up reporting arrangements to monitor the quality and accessibility of the treatment provided has been launched by Conservative Leader Douglas Ross. A consultation has been opened gauging support on the proposed Right to Addiction Recovery (Scotland) Bill and seeking views on its financial implications on public sector bodies.

Care Homes/Care at Home

[Summary report and presentations from care home research workshop](#)

A summary report from a workshop exploring issues around care home research has been published by the Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (Iriss). Enabling Research in Care Homes was co-hosted with ENRICH Scotland and attended by colleagues from universities, NHS, Scottish Government, Care Inspectorate as well as those from the third and statutory sectors. The presentations by Maria Drummond of ENRICH Scotland and Dr Sarah Swift of University of Stirling are available to view.

[Additional weekly data on Covid in care homes](#)

Additional weekly data on Covid in adult care homes has been published by the Scottish Government. Between 27 September and 3 October, there were 27 deaths attributable to confirmed Covid in care homes. As of Monday 4 October, 84% of care homes were facilitating indoor visits, as a proportion of all Scottish care homes.

[Webinar on oral care in care homes guidance](#)

The Care Inspectorate is hosting a webinar to learn how to use our [Supporting Better Oral Care in Care Homes](#) guidance in your own setting. The webinar, taking place on 27 October, will also feature information on the Caring for Smiles and Open Wide national programmes and the training that local leads provide in NHS boards.

Homelessness

[Progress on Ending Homelessness actions set out in annual report](#)

An annual report setting out progress made against actions in the Ending Homelessness Together Action Plan has been published by the Scottish Government. Of the 58 actions for national government, local government and third sector partners, six have been completed since the last annual report, with most other actions being classed as “well underway” or “underway”.

[New Housing Options statistics published](#)

New statistics on Housing Options services in Scotland have been published by the Scottish Government. Covering the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021, the statistics show there were 36,514 approaches from 34,124 unique households in 2020-21, a 13% decrease from to 2019-20. The number of open cases increased



4% across the period to 21,075. It is suggested this could be due to COVID restrictions and the inability of local authorities to move homeless households to settled accommodation.

Justice

[Analysis of reconviction rate trends published](#)

The Scottish Government has published an analysis of trends in reconviction statistics up to the latest cohort of 2018-19. The reconviction rate for 2018-19 was 28.3%, up from 26.4% the year before. The average number of reconvictions per offender increased from 0.47 to 0.50, an increase of 6%. In the longer term, figures show the reconviction rate decreased by 2.3% in the decade between 2009-10 and 2018-19 and the average number of reconvictions fell by 11%.

[Funding to support victims of crime announced](#)

A £30m fund to support victims of crime has been announced by the Scottish Government. The Victim Centred Approach Fund aims to streamline funding for organisations and improve the range of advice, information and support available to victims. The fund will be open for applications from third sector organisations, community interest companies and public sector bodies, including local authorities.

Mental Health

[Funding for Early Intervention in Psychosis Programme confirmed](#)

The Scottish Government is to invest £2m over the next two years in Healthcare Improvement Scotland's Early Intervention in Psychosis Programme. The funding will cover the second phase of the programme, in line with the Mental Health Strategy (2017–2027) and Transition and Recovery Plan.

Workforce

[Consultation on Scotland becoming a fair work nation](#)

The Scottish Government has launched a consultation on Scotland becoming a fair work nation. The document, which seeks views on how to ensure fair work remains at the heart of labour market interventions in the context of Covid and Brexit, states that the Scottish Government will continue to work with the social care sector to drive fair work practice in line with the Independent Review of Adult Social Care and the Fair Work Convention's report on Fair Work in Scotland's Social Care Sector. The consultation closes on 23 December.

[Latest SSSC Workforce Skills Report published](#)

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) has published its latest Workforce Skills Report. The annual report looks at the current provision of qualifications for the social work, social care and early years workforce, demand for qualifications and how they meet current skills needs. It also looks at barriers to undertaking



qualifications and what new skills are needed for the future. The new report highlights that between 2021 and 2025 more than 68,000 registered workers in care homes for adults, care at home and housing support services need to meet a qualification condition. Most of these are met by the SVQ Social Services and Healthcare (SSH) at SCQF level 6, however based on recent average provision around 25,000 people will be able to start the award over the next four years. This gap between demand and supply is the biggest identified in the report.

[SSSC and partners to launch new leadership programme](#)

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) has partnered with NHS Education for Scotland and the Royal College of General Practitioners to develop a new leadership programme in the context of health and social care integration. The You as a Collaborative Leader programme will consist of two online workshops split across four half days in November and December. The deadline for applications to the programme is Wednesday 20 October.

[SSSC launches new care careers toolkit](#)

A new care careers toolkit has been launched by the SSSC. The toolkit, aimed at employers, careers advisers and employment support workers, is designed to be used to help others start a career in care and includes new resources on employability, PVG membership and a sector overview, alongside existing tools.

[UK Government launches health and social care leadership review \(England\)](#)

A review into leadership in England's health and social care system has been launched by the UK Government. The review will be led by former Vice Chief of the Defence Staff, General Sir Gordon Messenger, and will report back to Health Secretary Sajid Javid in early 2022.

Other Health and Social Care

[New investment to help tackle winter pressures in NHS and social care](#)

Additional investment of over £300m in hospital and community care has been announced by the Scottish Government to help tackle winter pressures within the NHS and social care system. The winter package includes: £40m for 'step-down' care to enable hospital patients to temporarily enter care homes, or receive additional care at home support, with no financial liability to the individual or their family towards the cost of the care home; over £60m to maximise the capacity of care at home services; and up to £48m to increase the hourly pay of social care staff to match new NHS band 2 staff.

[Funding for local authorities to support those affected by trauma](#)

Funding to help local authorities deliver services which can safely support people affected by psychological trauma and adversity has been announced by the Scottish Government. The £1.6m funding will allow local authorities to invest in training and



staffing to enable public and third sector services, including health, education, justice and housing, to work in ways which understand and support people affected by trauma. The investment will also support involvement of people with lived experience of trauma in the design and delivery of services. The award is part of the National Trauma Training Programme, led by NHS Education for Scotland.

[Summary of roundtable on social care climate change](#)

Scottish Care has published a summary of a recent roundtable discussion on social care and climate change. The Climate and Social Care Collective was established to highlight the role that the social care sector can play in the climate change debate. The second roundtable, which took place on 15 September, was focused on innovation and solution, with emphasis on taking a cross-sectoral approach. The event also explored people-centred solutions and a role of the community in supporting sustainable change. A final roundtable event takes place on 20 October.

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.