

9 - 15 October 2021



bulletin



# Adult and Health



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## Covid-19 - General

### [Committee report criticises initial UK response to the pandemic](#)

Two committees at Westminster have published a joint report examining the initial response of the UK to the pandemic. The Health and Social Care Committee and the Science and Technology Committee find that the government approach was to try to manage the situation and in effect achieve herd immunity. The report suggests that this led to a delay in introducing the first lockdown, costing thousands of lives. However, the report also highlights successes, including the vaccination rollout, describing it as “one of the most effective initiatives in UK history”. The report, which predominantly focuses on the response to the pandemic in England, has led to calls from opposition parties at Holyrood for a similar parliamentary inquiry to take place in Scotland.

### [Coronavirus Acts ninth report published](#)

The Scottish Government has published its ninth, two-monthly report on the Coronavirus Acts setting out the status and operation of the legislation necessary to respond to the pandemic. The report covers the period from 1 August to 30 September 2021.



## **Adults with Incapacity**

### [Joint statement on supporting discharges from hospital for adults with incapacity](#)

The Mental Welfare Commission and Scottish Government have issued a joint statement on supporting discharges from hospital for adults with incapacity. The statement outlines actions that can be taken to support the vulnerable group on discharge from hospital, and highlights key points of the law to ensure individuals' rights are respected. It comes after the recent publication of [delayed discharge figures](#) for August 2021.

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

### [Workshops for care home and supported housing residents on Anne's Law](#)

The Scottish Government is currently doing work on 'Anne's Law' - a commitment made by Ministers 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. 'Anne's Law' seeks to put this right into primary legislation. Two workshops will be held specifically for care home and supported housing residents on 18 and 25 October to share proposals, as well as hear the views of those who the law will be most important to.

### [Care association leaders from across UK meet for first time since start of pandemic](#)

Leaders of care associations in England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland have met for the first time since the start of the pandemic. The Five Nations Care Forum took place in London on 4 and 5 October. Scottish Care has published a communique reflecting on the discussion.

## **Infection Prevention and Control**

### [HIS consults on draft new infection prevention and control standards](#)

Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) has launched a consultation on draft new infection prevention and control standards for health and social care settings. The consultation closes on 7 December, with feedback used to inform the final standards.

### [International Infection Prevention Week from 17 October](#)

International Infection Prevention Week this year takes place from 17 to 21 October. Organised by the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, this year's campaign is focused on the theme of 'Make your intention infection prevention'. A number of materials are available.

### [Global Handwashing Day – 15 October](#)

This year's Global Handwashing Day is taking place on 15 October. The campaign aims to increase awareness regarding the importance of handwashing with soap, as an effective and affordable way to prevent diseases and save lives. The theme this



year is 'Our future is at hand – let's move forward together', calling for coordinated action to actively work toward universal hand hygiene.

## **Mental Health**

### [Improvements in suicidal crisis response outlined in new report](#)

The Scottish Government has published a report from the National Suicide Prevention Leadership Group (NSPLG) with recommendations for improvements in suicidal crisis response, as well as the results from a [stakeholder survey](#). Recommendations include forming local area governance structures to improve access to immediate 24:7 crisis support, full-time funding to embed these recommendations within the Covid recovery phase, and the next suicide prevention strategy to include improvement outcomes for early intervention and aftercare.

### [Suicidal Crisis Support Action Group to be created](#)

Responding to the report of the NSPLG, the Scottish Government has confirmed the creation of a Suicidal Crisis Support Action Group, which will be responsible for delivering upon the approaches set out in the report. Nigel Henderson, former chief executive of Penumbra, has been appointed as national lead for suicidal crisis support to lead this work.

### [HIS welcomes funding to improve care for people with personality disorders](#)

Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) has welcomed the Scottish Government's announcement of an additional £600m funding to improve care for people with personality disorders. The funding will be used to establish an improvement programme which includes a national learning system to identify and share good practice, an analysis of current service provision in Scotland, and a commission to a third sector organisation to learn from those with lived experience.

## **Older People**

### [UK Malnutrition Awareness Week continues](#)

The fourth UK Malnutrition Awareness Week continues until Sunday 17 October. The campaign aims to raise awareness of the risks of preventable malnutrition across different sectors and settings, in local communities and with the general public and health and social care professionals. The theme this year is identifying signs of risks of preventable malnutrition in older people.

## **Workforce**

### [Wellbeing support for health and social care staff](#)

The Scottish Government is asking what types of wellbeing support health and social care staff need the most from the recent £300 million announcement of a Winter Support Package. Following the announcement of a further £4 million for workforce wellbeing, health boards and health and social care partnerships are being invited to



identify the services which would most assist their staff. Funding will be made available immediately for hot drinks, food and other measures to aid rest and recuperation, following staff feedback, while possible future developments include more psychological support measures.

### [Blogs mark Allied Health Professions Day](#)

Allied Health Professions Day 2021 took place on 14 October 2021. This year the four key areas of focus will be; Celebrating; Appreciating; Inspiring; Connecting. Alzheimer Scotland have published a series of blogs relating to the key areas.

### [RCN balloting members over strike action](#)

The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) is balloting members on whether to take industrial action over a pay dispute with the Scottish Government. It has rejected an initial pay increase of 4% from the government, instead suggesting a 12.5% pay rise would recognise the contribution of nursing staff to health and care services.

### **Other Health and Social Care**

#### [Resource shares embedded and emerging good practice across integrated health and social care](#)

A new online resource to share embedded and emerging good practice across Scotland's integrated health and social care system has been launched by Health and Social Care Scotland. Emerging and Emerging Good Practice Examples provides examples of service planning, engagement and delivery of community based services, aligned to the Framework for Community Health and Social Care Integrated Services.

### [LEGSMATTER week 11-15 October](#)

The Tissue Viability Society has announced that this year's LEGSMATTER week will take place between 11 and 15 October. There are sessions throughout the week that cover skin care and foot care with information, advice and support for health and social care professionals, people experiencing care and the general public.

### [Care Inspectorate Statistical Summary Report for Quarter 2 of 2021/22](#)

The Care Inspectorate's Statistical Summary Report for Quarter 2 of 2021/22 has now been released. This is updated quarterly and presents data on the number of registered care services, new registrations and cancellations, complaints about care services and quality theme grades all by care service type and or service sector.

### [Think tank report calls for cross-party commission on social care insurance model](#)

A report calling for the development of a cross-party commission to develop a sustainable insurance model for social care has been published by Reform Scotland. The think tank advocates a temporary increase in income tax of 1p but argues there is a need to deliver a more sustainable programme in the face of an ageing



population. It is claimed this temporary increase would raise just under £500m and would ensure the Scottish Government was well placed to resource the recommendations of the Independent Review of Adult Social Care.

### **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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