



## Covid-19 - General

### [Lessons learned from response to pandemic](#)

The UK Government's Health & Social Care Committee and the Science & Technology Committee have published a joint report examining the initial response of the UK to the pandemic. The report examines six key areas: the country's preparedness for a pandemic; the use of non-pharmaceutical interventions such as border controls, social distancing and lockdowns to control the pandemic; the use of test, trace and isolate strategies; the impact of the pandemic on social care; the impact of the pandemic on specific communities; and the procurement and roll-out of covid-19 vaccines.

### [Report on Coronavirus Acts](#)

The Scottish Government has published the ninth two-monthly report on the Coronavirus Acts, setting out the status and operation of the legislation necessary to respond to the COVID pandemic.

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### [Expert panel statement on face coverings and Covid-19](#)

The UK Government's UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has published an expert panel statement, informed by evidence and expertise, on the role of face coverings in mitigating Covid-19 transmission. Amongst other conclusions, the evidence suggests that all types of face coverings are, to some extent, effective in reducing transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in both healthcare and public, community settings.

### **Early Learning and Childcare**

#### [Data sharing to help with Covid-19 risk to ELC staff](#)

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) has been asked to share information with Public Health Scotland (PHS) to help them with their public health monitoring work to determine the risk to early learning and childcare (ELC) staff from COVID-19 and to establish the level of occupational health risk they may experience as a result. This doesn't include staff working in out of school care and childminders. PHS will estimate vaccination rates and effectiveness of Covid-19 vaccines among ELC staff, and SSSC will share information to ensure PHS has an up-to-date record of individuals working in early years.

### **Infection Prevention and Control**

#### [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.

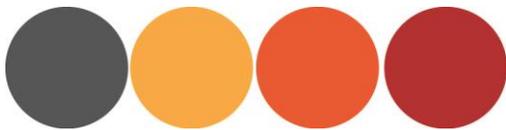
#### [Global Handwashing Day – 15 October](#)

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.

### **Justice**

#### [Comment on young offender institutions](#)

The Chair of The Promise Fiona Duncan has published a blog on young offender institutions and the death three years ago of William Lindsay. The comment piece highlights one of the priority areas from The Promise Plan 21-24 to stop holding children in prison.



## Other Health and Social Care

### [Reviewing and learning from the deaths of children and young people](#)

The Care Inspectorate has set out details of the new local and national arrangements for a system for reviewing and learning from the circumstances surrounding the deaths of all children and young people in Scotland. Based within the context of a National Hub, the programme aims to:

- ensure that the death of every child in Scotland is subject to a quality review
- improve the experience and engagement with families and carers
- channel learning from current review processes across Scotland that could direct action to help reduce preventable deaths

### [Care Inspectorate statistical report](#)

The Care Inspectorate 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.

### [Anniversary year for workforce regulator](#)

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary year in 2021. The SSSC will be sharing stories from workers, staff and partners about the difference registration makes to them and people using services, asking services and workers to share why they are proud to be registered, and highlighting key moments from 20 years of the SSSC.

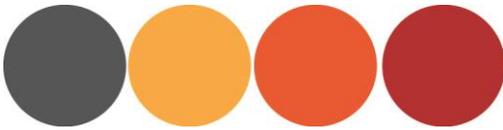
## Workforce

### [Support for health and social care staff](#)

Following the announcement of a Winter Support Package, the Scottish Government is asking Health and Social Care Partnerships and health boards to identify the services which would most assist their staff.

### [Workforce Skills Report](#)

The 2021 Workforce Skills Report has been published by the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC). The report highlights that 68,000 more registered workers would need to attain a qualification in the next five years, but there is only capacity for around 25,000 to do so.



## Disclaimer

This weekly bulletin is produced as an update on the key issues concerning children and young people.

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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