




# Adult and Health



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## Covid-19 – General

### [Winter vaccination TV and radio campaign launched](#)

The Scottish Government has launched a marketing campaign highlighting the benefits of flu and Covid booster jabs. Later this month it will also launch an online portal to allow people aged 50 to 59, and those aged 16 and over who are unpaid carers or household contacts of immunosuppressed individuals, to book their Autumn/Winter vaccination appointments online. The Scottish Government has also announced [additional military support](#) for the Autumn/Winter vaccination programme.

### [First oral antiviral for Covid-19 approved by MHRA](#)

The MHRA has announced the antiviral, Lagevrio (molnupiravir), is safe and effective at reducing the risk of hospitalisation and death in people with mild to moderate Covid-19 who are at increased risk of developing severe disease. Molnupiravir has been authorised for use in people who have mild to moderate Covid-19 and at least one risk factor for developing severe illness. The MHRA recommends its use as soon as possible after a positive Covid-19 test and within five days of symptoms onset.



### [Covid advisory group on public health threat – terms of reference published](#)

The Scottish Government has published terms of reference for the Covid-19 Advisory Sub-Group on Public Health Threat Assessment. The group will be chaired by Harry Burns and provide advice to the Chief Medical Officer and to Scottish ministers by: determining the likelihood and impact of significant clinical risks to public health which may occur during the next 12 months; identifying data to signal in advance these emerging risks; and monitoring the response of the health and social care system in addressing these. It will also describe high value and evidence-based interventions that healthcare systems can begin to plan and make contingency for, should these threats arise.

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

#### [Finalists for the 2021 Care Home Awards announced](#)

Scottish Care has announced the finalists for the 2021 Care Home Awards. The winners will be announced at an evening awards ceremony on Friday 1 April 2022. The event will be hosted by Michelle McManus and Scottish Care CEO Dr Donald Macaskill.

### **Justice**

#### [Progress report on the operation of MAPPA for 2020-2021](#)

A progress report providing an overview of the main national developments in relation to the multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA) has been published. MAPPA is in operation in Scotland and provides an overview of the main national developments in relation to MAPPA conducted by the Scottish Government and partners over the course of the year.

### **Mental Health**

#### [Committee inquiry into perinatal mental health](#)

The Health, Social Care and Sport Committee is undertaking a short inquiry into perinatal mental health in Scotland with the aim of exploring key issues facing new mothers during pregnancy and following the birth of a child that can impact mental health. The call for views closes on 24 November 2021.

### **Workforce**

#### [SSSC update on careers and recruitment](#)

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) has published an update on studying, careers, funding and recruitment in the social work, social care and early years sector. The update covers studying with the Open University, the Flexible Workforce Development Fund, the Skills Scotland national careers fair and an upcoming short course developed by colleges in Scotland to help people who are unemployed or at risk of being unemployed to learn about a career in care.



### [Research on international mechanisms to revalue women's work](#)

The Scottish Government has published research exploring and evaluating international mechanisms that aim to revalue or result in the revaluation of women's work. The research is focused on historically low-paid jobs in social care, early learning and childcare, retail, catering, and cleaning. Key findings from the report suggest that women in Scotland are at a disadvantage in the labour market and their work is generally undervalued compared to men's. The report also highlights the negative impact Covid-19 had on women's position in the labour market, with many mothers that were working at the start of the pandemic now being unemployed or on reduced hours.

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

#### [Findings from review of care service definitions published](#)

The findings from the review of care service definitions have been published by the Scottish Government. Iriss was commissioned by the Government to conduct independent research on current care service definitions, which included engagement with stakeholders from the sector. The report outlines some of the challenges current definitions pose, such as restricting service provisions and hindering person-centred care. The report also suggests that current definitions worsened gaps between health and social care and caused barriers to integrated working.

#### [Minister update on plans for National Care Service](#)

Social Care Minister Kevin Stewart has provided an update on next steps for developing the National Care Service. Writing to the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, the Minister advised that, now the consultation period has ended, a procurement exercise for the consultation analysis will be completed shortly. Mr. Stewart expects to give a full account of the consultation outcomes in January 2022. In addition, the Minister advised the Committee that another procurement exercise is underway for the development of a Target Operating Model for an NCS, delivery of a Programme Business Case, and input to and verification of Current Operating Models of Social Care.

#### [SSSC among bodies to publish response to National Care Service consultation](#)

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) is among a range of bodies to have published their response to the National Care Service consultation, which closed this week. Among a number of key points, the SSSC response stresses the view that responsibility for social work and social care qualifications must remain within the SSSC's remit to ensure regulation remains independent.

- Other organisations to publish their response include the [Scottish Association of Social Work](#), the [Coalition of Care and Support Providers in Scotland](#), and the [ALLIANCE](#).



### [Scottish Government outlines Winter Support Fund](#)

The Scottish Government has outlined its £41 million Winter Support Fund to help those on low incomes, children and people at risk of homelessness. The package includes £10m to help those struggling to pay fuel bills, £25m discretionary funding to local authorities to support wellbeing and respond to financial insecurity, and £6m for third sector partners to support low-income families.

### [Funding for expansion of medical workforce](#)

The Scottish Government has committed £32 million to create 139 trainee doctor posts to support services under the greatest pressure from the ongoing recovery from Covid. While the majority of successful applicants will start from Autumn 2022, the new funding will provide core psychiatric training places from February 2022.

### [COSLA Excellence Awards to be held in February 2022](#)

COSLA has announced that the Excellence Awards will return in 2022, recognising distinguished service across local government. Nominations are open until Monday 29 November, in categories including Service Innovation and Improvement, Tackling Inequalities and Improving Health and Just Transition to a Net Zero Economy. The awards ceremony will be held on Thursday 24 February.

### [SHRC annual report 2020-21 laid before Parliament](#)

The Scottish Human Rights Commission's (SHRC) Annual Report 2020-21 has been laid at the Scottish Parliament. The report outlines the work carried out by the Commission in its response to the immediate challenges and demands of the Covid-19 pandemic.

### [Care Inspectorate introduces new Scrutiny Assessment Tool](#)

We are introducing a new Scrutiny Assessment Tool (SAT) to replace our current risk assessment tool (RAD) and our Covid-19 SAT. The SAT, a trigger tool to identify indicators of potential concerns in services, was developed using feedback from staff, information from our enforcement review, intelligence and learning from the pandemic and the Hull early indicators of concern. We have tested the SAT tools with inspectors from registrations, complaints and inspection teams across ELC, CYP and adult teams. Inspectors will begin the process of moving over to using the SAT after 28 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.

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