




# Adult and Health



[Covid-19 - General](#)

[Alcohol and Drugs](#)

[Alzheimer's/Dementia](#)

[Care Homes/Care at Home](#)

[Mental Health](#)

[Older People](#)

[Other Health & Social Care](#)

## Covid-19 - General

[Vaccination passport scheme could be extended](#)

Scotland's vaccination passport scheme could be extended to indoor hospitality and leisure settings to keep the pandemic under control, Deputy First Minister John Swinney has said. In an update to Parliament on the latest Covid-19 situation, Mr Swinney noted that the number of new cases each day was remaining at a "concerningly high level" and that the situation was "precarious and unpredictable".

[Mandatory vaccination for health and social care workers \(England\)](#)

Health and social care providers in England will be required to ensure workers have been fully vaccinated against Covid-19 unless they are exempt. The regulations apply to health and social care workers, including volunteers, who have face to face contact with service users, and to ancillary staff such as porters and receptionists who may have social contact with patients. The regulations will come into force from 1 April next year.

## Alcohol and Drugs

[Evidence review on alcohol and drug use among young people](#)

The findings of a rapid evidence review of prevalence and harms relating to alcohol and drug use among children and young people have been published by the Scottish Government. The review draws



on evidence and literature to: provide an up-to-date overview of the latest relevant data; give an understanding of the nature and extent of the health and social harms being experienced; explore the risk factors underpinning problem use and harms; and examine the range, nature and suitability of existing treatment and recovery services for younger people.

## **Alzheimer's/Dementia**

### [National Housing and Dementia Forum - summary from final evidence session](#)

A summary of discussions from the National Housing and Dementia Forum has found that perceptions of age, lack of suitable or desirable housing options, lack of awareness of housing options, and the logistics of moving home can be barriers to moving in later life. In its final evidence session, summarised by the Dementia Centre, the forum discussed the main reasons for moving from one type of accommodation to another in later life, and if people are able to make appropriate moves. The forum suggests that a 'postcode and/or advice lottery' exists, leaving many struggling to access the right support to make housing decisions in later life.

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

### [Statistical report on care home census published](#)

Public Health Scotland has published a statistical report on the care home census for adult care homes, covering the period 31 March 2011 to 31 March 2021. The report found that during this period there was a decrease in the number of care homes, number of registered places, estimated number of residents and estimated percentage occupancy. The main points are as follows:

- On 31 March 2021, there were 1,069 care homes for adults and 40,632 registered places – 20% and 5% fewer, respectively, compared with 31 March 2011.
- On 31 March 2021, there were an estimated 33,353 residents aged 18 years and over in care homes – 11% fewer than 31 March 2011 (37,511).
- The estimated percentage occupancy at 31 March 2021 was 82%, compared with 88% on 31 March 2011.

This statistical release only covers Part 1 of the Care Home Census, with Part 2 to be published on 14 December 2021, along with a full report of both parts.

### [Feedback sessions on draft infection prevention and control standards](#)

Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) and the Care Inspectorate are hosting two sessions to engage with staff who work in care homes for adults and older people and to garner feedback on the draft IPC standards, which were published on 12 October. There will be an opportunity at both sessions to hear from Care Inspectorate Chief Inspector Marie Paterson and HIS on the journey to develop the standards, which will be mandatory in all care homes across Scotland once finalised. In all other social care services the agreed IPC standards will be deemed as good



practice. There are two sessions open to staff (26 November and 3 December), while feedback can also be submitted through an online survey.

### [Safe Staffing learning events to be hosted by the Care Inspectorate](#)

The Care Inspectorate is hosting a number of Safe Staffing learning events for providers, managers and staff working in care homes for adults (including care homes for older people). The learning events will take place on three dates: 23 November, 30 November and 6 December.

### [UK Government and CQC urged to do more to protect human rights \(England\)](#)

The Chair of the Joint Committee on Human Rights has written to the UK Government, calling for a review of its guidelines to ensure that meaningful visits to care settings are being facilitated by providers. As part of its inquiry into protecting human rights in care settings, the Joint Committee invited members of the public to take part in a survey to give an up-to-date picture of experiences in care environments. Their responses suggested there were concerns that restrictions brought in due to the Covid-19 pandemic were still being applied indiscriminately and family members barred from seeing loved ones. The Chair of the Committee has also called on the CQC to ensure action is taken when providers fail to support visits.

## **Mental Health**

### [Surveys on dual diagnosis of mental ill health and alcohol or drug use launched](#)

Surveys for people with experience of dual diagnoses of mental illness and alcohol and drug use, and their families, has been launched by the Mental Welfare Commission. According to the Commission, people who have a dual diagnosis often fall between services. The Commission wants to explore services available in this situation as well as gaps, problems and practice that can be shared. Responses, due by 31 January, will inform a report which will go to all health boards, local authorities, health and social care partnerships and the Scottish Government.

### [See Me launches online resources to help tackle mental health stigma in care](#)

Free online resources to help improve practice and tackle mental health stigma in health and social care have been launched by See Me. The launch comes after latest research by the charity suggests that 15% of people with experience of mental health problems have experienced stigma in GP practices. The resources include training, a video library and guidance on policy. The new resources have been launched alongside a new campaign, See Us, which encourages everyone in Scotland to take action to end mental health stigma and discrimination.

### [Scots' attitudes to mental health have improved in last 10 years, according to charity](#)

Research from mental health charity See Me has found that more than half of Scots (58%) say that their own perceptions of people with mental health problems have improved in the last 10 years, while 63% think that perceptions of mental health have improved since the start of the pandemic. The charity is asking Scotland to keep the



momentum going and has launched a new campaign, See Us, encouraging people from all walks of life to get involved to end the stigma around mental health.

## **Older People**

### [Progress review on services for older people in Edinburgh published](#)

A progress review on services for older people in Edinburgh has been published. The review follows an initial joint inspection report by the Care Inspectorate and Healthcare Improvement Scotland in 2017 and a subsequent progress review in 2018 which concluded the partnership had made limited progress in meeting the inspection recommendations. The latest review found that Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership has demonstrated good progress against most of the recommendations for improvement, highlighting the areas of strength and where further improvement is required.

## **Other Health and Social Care**

### [New guides for providers on personal planning published by Care Inspectorate](#)

New guides for providers on personal planning have been published by the Care Inspectorate. The guides, including one relating to [Adults](#), are designed to support managers and staff in services to develop and improve how personal plans for children, young people and adults are undertaken. They will also help inspectors to evaluate personal plans in a more consistent way during our scrutiny and improvement work. The guides have been developed collaboratively by colleagues within the early learning and childcare, children and young people, and adults' inspection teams. National policy, legislation, evidence-based practice and real-life examples of people experiencing care have underpinned the development of these.

### [Care Inspectorate launches consultation on review of draft policy position](#)

The Care Inspectorate has launched a consultation on the review of its draft policy position in relation to registration, and variation of existing conditions, for services for adults with learning disabilities and/or autistic adults where support is linked to accommodation. We are consulting on this so that everyone with an interest in the proposal has the opportunity to share their views. The revised policy position will be published when we have considered all feedback.

### [Report on people's experiences of social care and SDS](#)

The Alliance and Self-directed Support Scotland have published a report on people's experiences of social care and Self-directed Support (SDS) in Dumfries and Galloway. Highlighting evidence of good practice and where improvements can be made, the report makes a number of recommendations including action to ensure that budget cuts and tightened eligibility criteria do not negatively affect the physical and mental health of people on low incomes who access or are applying for SDS.



### [Employers can advertise adult social care job vacancies for free](#)

Employers can now advertise adult social care vacancies on [myjobscotland.gov.uk](https://myjobscotland.gov.uk) for free until 31 March 2022. This is part of the Scottish Government's adult social care recruitment campaign, There's More to Care Than Caring. Organisations can find out more about how to advertise their vacancies on [myjobscotland](https://myjobscotland.gov.uk), which has a dedicated page for social care jobs.

#### **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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