

16 – 22 April 2022







Covid-19 - General

Disabilities

Early Learning and Childcare

<u>Health</u>

Justice

Looked After and Accommodated Children

Other Health and Social Care

Covid-19 - General

Stage 1 report on Coronavirus legislation

The Scottish Parliament's Covid-19 Recovery Committee has published their Stage 1 report on the Coronavirus (Recovery and Reform) (Scotland) Bill. The Committee support the general principles of the Bill, and highlights opportunities to strengthen areas such as Parliamentary scrutiny.



Disabilities

Introduction of transitions Bill

Pam Duncan-Glancy MSP has introduced the Disabled Children and Young People (Transitions to Adulthood) (Scotland) Bill to the Scottish Parliament. The Bill as introduced aims to improve opportunities for disabled children and young people as they grow up, requiring the Scottish Government to have a strategy explaining how they are going to improve opportunities for disabled children and young people and to be in charge of improving opportunities for disabled children and young people moving into adulthood, and for local authorities to have plans for each disabled child and young person as they move into adulthood.

Early Learning and Childcare

Study into childminding workforce

The Scottish Government has published a study exploring the range of factors that may be contributing to the decline in the Scottish childminder workforce in order to identify ways to better recruit, support and retain them. Based on the findings, the researchers set out a range of actions, including for the Care Inspectorate to consider whether the registration process can be further simplified, further highlight the support available around registration and start-up to ensure more potential applicants are aware of the help on offer, continue work to reduce paperwork and administrative burden (including that related to delivering funded ELC hours), and review what can be done to enhance or better communicate guidance and support around inspections.

Health

Hepatitis in young children

Public Health Scotland is highlighting the signs to be aware of as an investigation continues into the rise in cases of sudden onset hepatitis (liver inflammation) in children ten years old and under. If a child shows signs of jaundice, where the skin has a yellow tinge and is most easily seen in the whites of the eyes, then parents should contact their GP or other Health Care professional.

Justice

Exploring children's understanding and experiences of justice

The Children and Young People's Centre for Justice (CYCJ) has published 'Thinking About Justice', research which explores children's understanding, experiences of, and aspirations for, justice in Scotland. The key themes which emerged during the research include that trusted, respectful and child-centred relationships are important in ensuring a child's access to justice is fully supported, and that for some children there is a deep mistrust and dissent for formal processes of justice.



Looked After and Accommodated Children

Research into children born into care and their circumstances

The Scottish Children's Report Administration (SCRA) is highlighting joint research carried out between themselves and the Universities of Lancaster and Stirling into the life circumstances of infants who entered the care system via a Children's Hearing before they were a year old between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2020. The report, 'Born into Care', finds that, "although on the whole families were known to services before their birth, and thus their arrival was expected, most infants were not placed with their older brothers and sisters" and that, "two years later, only a third of children were living with a brother or sister."

Calls for further research into the needs of children in care (England)

Ofsted has published the report of a study looking at the experiences of 113 children in care, finding that their needs were very diverse, and there was usually more than one reason they were living in a children's home, and calling for further research to be done, including a national audit of children's needs, to provide better understanding of the experiences of children in care, and of the complexities of sufficiency in children's social care.

Other Health and Social Care

Guidance to understand 'recognition of prior learning'

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) has created a new web page and updated their recognition of prior learning (RPL) guidance to help people understand when it may be useful when working towards the qualification needed for SSSC registration.

Applications are open for leadership and management programme

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) has announced applications have opened for its 2022-23 Leading for the Future programme for leadership and management development in heath, social care and partner organisations. This 10 month programme of leadership and management development is designed specifically for those in senior leadership positions to help build leadership capacity in health and social care.



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 <u>Newsdirect</u>, <u>Community Care</u>, <u>Children & Young People Now</u> and <u>ISD</u> <u>Scotland</u>.

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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