




Adult and Health



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Covid-19 - General

[Covid vaccine barriers and incentives – literature review published](#)

The Scottish Government has published a literature review examining UK sources between November 2021 and March 2022 on barriers and incentives to the uptake of Covid vaccines. Noting UK vaccination rates levelled off at the end of 2021, the review explores the reasons for changes in uptake and how they relate to particular groups in society. The review also notes that Scotland presents significant differences in uptake, with minority ethnic groups, those living in the most deprived deciles, younger people, men and pregnant women more likely to be hesitant.

[Latest state of the Covid epidemic report published](#)

The Scottish Government has published the latest state of the epidemic report as of 13 May 2022. The report brings together the different sources of evidence and data about the epidemic in Scotland at this point in time, why we are at that place, and what is likely to happen next. The Care Inspectorate is mentioned in relation to providing weekly data on staff in adult care homes.



Alzheimer's/Dementia

[Dementia Awareness Week 30 May - 5 June 2022](#)

Alzheimer's Scotland is hosting dementia awareness week from 30 May to 5 June to raise awareness of dementia and help improve the lives of people with dementia, their families and carers. This year's theme is 'Let's Prevent, Care, Cure dementia together' and over the week there will be a series of events, including a [Tea & Bletcher](#) campaign which will run throughout the week.

[National 10-year plan for dementia to be published later this year \(England\)](#)

Health and Social Care Secretary Sajid Javid has announced that a new 10-year Plan to tackle dementia and boost funding into research to better understand neurodegenerative diseases will be published later this year. It is hoped actions within the plan will help to reduce the 40% of dementia that is potentially preventable, while also exploring how new technology, science and medicine can help reduce the numbers and severity of dementia.

Care Homes/Care at Home

[Winners of care at home and housing support award winners announced](#)

The winners of Scottish Care's National Care at Home and Housing Support Awards were announced at a ceremony on Friday 13 May – the first in-person homecare awards since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic.

[Scottish Care host care at home and housing support conference](#)

Scottish Care Chief Executive Donald Macaskill has written a blog based on his address to the 2022 Care at Home and Housing Support conference – 'Home is best: the critical role of homecare and housing support'. The blog highlights the impact the pandemic has had on the sector and its workforce and notes that it is time for the sector to 'come out of the shadows', building on what worked well during the pandemic, articulating the value of homecare, valuing its workforce and putting relationship building at its core. Care Inspectorate Chief Executive Edith MacIntosh was also a speaker at the event.

[ADASS waiting for care report published \(England\)](#)

Research published by the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) has highlighted that there are over half a million adults waiting for social care in England, an increase of 72% since 2021. The research, which was carried out across local authorities, found that 61% of councils were having to prioritise assessments based on need. ADASS says the research highlights that family carers are having to take greater responsibility for their family members.

Carers

[Latest carers and disability benefit statistics published](#)



The Scottish Government has published statistics for Carer's Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Severe Disablement Allowance. As of November 2021, 80,383 carers were in receipt of Carer's Allowance, 140,598 people were in receipt of Disability Living Allowance, 123,909 people received Attendance Allowance and 1,335 people were given Severe Disablement Allowance.

Infection Prevention and Control

[New infection and prevention control standards published](#)

Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) has published new infection and prevention control (IPC) standards that apply to health and adult social care settings. The standards will act as a key component in the drive to reduce the risk of infections in health and social care in Scotland. They will support services to quality assure their IPC practice and approaches, and the IPC principles set out in the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual. The Care Inspectorate will take account of the standards in its inspection and regulation of adult and older people's care services, including care homes. The Chief Nursing Officer has also [written](#) to the sector about the new standards.

Workforce

[Digital Health and Care Leadership Programme applications now open](#)

NHS Education for Scotland (NES) is now accepting applications for Cohort 18 of the Digital Health and Care Leadership Programme (DLP). The programme is for experienced health and care professionals who have an interest in digital health and care, a passion to increase the use of technology for the benefit of service users and determination to develop their leadership skills. The closing date for applications is 1 July 2022.

[Health and Social Care Covid survey results published](#)

The fourth instalment of a UK wide survey into health and social care workers' quality of working life and coping while working during the Covid-19 pandemic has been published. The survey, which was conducted between 24 November 2021 and 4 February 2022, shows a slight increase in mental wellbeing from the previous study, although is still lower than the first survey conducted at the beginning of 2020. The survey highlights older respondents had significantly better wellbeing than younger respondents, while respondents from Scotland consistently reported more burnout than respondents from other parts of the UK on all three areas of burnout. Phase five of the survey is open to respondents from the 16 May to 8 July.

[RCN publishes Scottish data from nursing employment survey](#)

The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) has published the results of its employment survey for 2021, drawing out the Scottish data of 1293 respondents. Of those respondents, 92 noting they worked in care homes, 105 in people's homes, 20 in criminal justice and seven in hospice care. Key findings include:



- 73% of respondents reported that they work over their contracted hours at least once a week – 53% of those said that these hours are unpaid
- 72% agreed that they are under too much pressure at work
- 67% said they were too busy to provide the level of care they would like
- 61% of respondents stated that they are actively planning on leaving or thinking about leaving their jobs
- The most common reasons for this are: feeling undervalued (75%), concerns about low staffing levels (65%) and feeling under too much pressure (64%).

[Updated guidance in social work bursary](#)

The Department of Health and Social Care has updated its guidance on social work bursary arrangements to include details for the 2022-23 academic year.

[NMC publishes register from 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022](#)

The number of workers leaving the NMC register has increased after four years of steady decline, according to data published in the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) register for 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022. Of those who left, many said their main reasons included too much pressure and poor workplace culture, and more than one third of respondents (37%) said the Covid pandemic influenced their decision to leave. Some were also worried about their health and struggled with increased workloads and a lack of staff. In the past year the number of people on the permanent register has also increased, by 3.6%, taking the register to 758,303. During this period there was a steady decrease in the number of staff from the EU joining the register, but a “significant rise” in the number of internationally trained joiners, particularly those that had trained in India or the Philippines.

[Social Work Scotland Conference to take place on 5 October](#)

Social Work Scotland has announced that registration is now open for this year's conference, which will take place on 5 October at Crieff Hydro. The agenda is still to be confirmed.

Other Health and Social Care

[New Care Inspectorate board members announced](#)

The Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care, Kevin Stewart, has announced the appointments of Charlotte Armitage, Audrey Cowie, Maria McGill and Rosie Moor as members of the Care Inspectorate board. Biographies of the new board members can be found on the [Care Inspectorate website](#).

[Interim overview report on joint inspections of adult support and protection](#)

The Care Inspectorate, Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) have published an interim overview report on their joint inspection of adult support and protection. The plan, which builds on the thematic inspections that were undertaken in 2017-18, highlights



the key areas of focus that are emerging. In nine partnerships, key processes for adult support and protection were effective with areas for improvement, while in eight partnerships, strategic leadership for adult support and protection was effective with areas for improvement. One was very positive and demonstrated major strengths, with another having important areas of weakness that could adversely affect experiences and outcomes for adults at risk of harm.

[Consultation opens on data strategy for health and social care](#)

The Scottish Government has launched a consultation to support the development of a data strategy for health and social care. In its consultation paper, the government notes there are considerable data gaps in the sector and work is needed to improve access while better aligning existing work. The consultation is split into three sections which cover empowering people, empowering those delivering health and social care services and empowering industry and researchers. The government expects to publish the strategy's vision, ambitions, and actions by the end of this year. The consultation will close on Friday 12 August.

[Audit Scotland appoint new Chief Operating Officer](#)

Vicki Bibby has been appointed the new Chief Operating Officer of Audit Scotland. Ms Bibby is an experienced leader in Scotland's public sector and joins Audit Scotland from her current role as Director of Strategic Planning and Performance at Public Health Scotland, a post she has held through the Covid-19 pandemic. She has also previously worked at COSLA as Head of Resources and Chief Finance Officer.

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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