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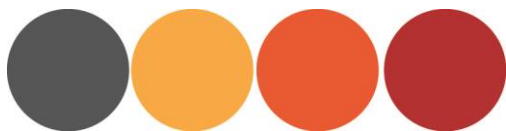
Covid-19 - General

[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.



Adoption and Fostering

[Foster care recruitment](#)

The Scottish Government's Minister for Children and Young People Clare Haughey MSP has written to the Scottish public asking them to consider fostering. The letter explains why fostering is an "amazing experience", who can become a foster carer, and the steps to fostering.

Child Protection

[Reported increase in harmful sexual behaviour in schools](#)

During a conference on the subject, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) are highlighting the increase in contacts to their Helpline about peer-on-peer harmful sexual behaviour. NSPCC's How Safe Conference 2022 will bring together safeguarding professionals to hear the latest information and innovations to inform their work and empower them to play their part in protecting children from abuse.

Early Learning and Childcare

[Inclusive early years care for children with learning disabilities](#)

The Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities has published a blog by a parent discussing their experience of accessing early years education and childcare for her child with a learning disability. After discussing issues of knowledge and resources in mainstream settings, and places and support in 'specialist nursery placements', the conclusion is that, "Inclusion isn't about bringing others into a space which already exists.....it's about making a new space, a space which is better for every ability."

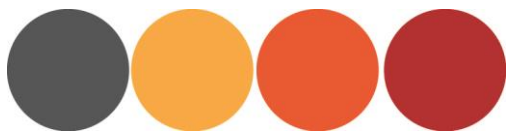
[Guidance on developing summer holiday access to childcare, food and activities](#)

The Scottish Government has published guidance for local authorities and commissioned partners to assist in the development of a programme of coordinated access to childcare, food, and activities during the 2022 school summer holidays. The guidance is for Local Authorities and any commissioned partners to understand how to use additional funding for targeted provision of a summer 2022 holiday programme for children aged five to 14 years old from low income families.

Education

[Development work on support for young people with ASN in education settings](#)

Children in Scotland are working with Education Scotland and the Scottish Government to build knowledge and influence practice development around support for young people with additional support needs (ASN) in an education setting. It



forms part of a wider consultation on behalf of the Scottish Government relating to pupil support and ongoing activity in response to Angela Morgan's Review of ASL Implementation, and is intended to help develop understanding of what is important to children and young people with additional support needs and how best to support them on their educational journey.

[Reappointments to SQA Board](#)

The Scottish Government has announced the reappointment of members to the Board of the Scottish Qualifications Authority. Anna Davis, Grahame Smith and Ken Thomson have been reappointed for four years or until such time that the SQA is dissolved, abolished or wound up.

Human Rights

[Rights Challenge Badge launched for Cubs and Scouts](#)

A new human rights badge, the 'Rights Challenge Badge', has been launched by the Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland and Scouts Scotland for Cubs and Scouts to complete. The badge has a range of activities and resources to empower learning and understanding of rights, and promotes adult leaders' awareness of children's rights.

Looked After and Accommodated Children

[Care Inspectorate report on distance placements](#)

The Care Inspectorate has published a 'Report on distance placements', exploring and reporting on cross-border and distance placements including those within Scotland or elsewhere in the UK or Republic of Ireland. Amongst other findings, the Care Inspectorate highlights that many children do not have their rights protected due to inadequate planning, poor practice and a lack of resources in their home communities. Recommendations for the Care Inspectorate include the introduction of a notification that requires providers to notify us when a young person, placed from different legal jurisdiction within the UK, moves in and out of placement, linking with Ofsted and the Competition and Markets Authority to discuss cross-border placements, discussing the development of a protocol for sharing information, and undertaking a consultation study with children experiencing distance placements in Scotland.

[Committee discussion on Cross-border Placements Regulations](#)

The Education and Children & Young People Committee took evidence on [draft regulations](#) which would treat Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS) orders, when granted by the High Court in England or Wales, as if they were Compulsory Supervision Orders in relation to the cross-border placement of children and young people into Scottish residential care. The Committee heard from Nick Hobbs and Maria Galli from the Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland, and the Scottish Government are due to give evidence next week.



[Analysis of National Care Service consultation responses on The Promise](#)

The Promise has published a report of their commissioned research on the published consultation responses to the consultation on the National Care Service proposals. The research reportedly produces a series of questions on the detail that need to be worked through before the impact of a National Care Service on children and families can be identified.

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](#).

[Progress on implementing devolved social security benefits](#)

Audit Scotland has published a progress report on the implementation of devolved social security benefits. The report concludes that the roll out is going well but substantial risks remain, including delivery of the remaining benefits by 2025, a large rise in the benefits cases administered by Social Security Scotland, and a doubling of the Social Security Scotland workforce within the next year to deal with growing administration needs.

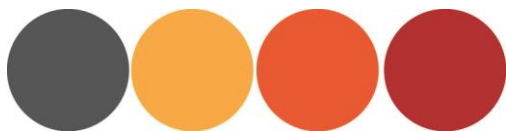
[Audit Scotland appoint new Chief Operating Officer](#)

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.

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.

[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.

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.

It should also be noted that the Care Inspectorate has no liability in respect of the content of external websites which may be signposted on this site.