


Adult
and
Health[Covid-19 - General](#)[Alcohol and Drugs](#)[Alzheimer's/Dementia](#)[Care Homes/Care at Home](#)[End of Life/Palliative Care](#)[Mental Health](#)[Other Health & Social Care](#)**Covid-19 - General**[Covid-19 guidance updated for adult care homes](#)

Public Health Scotland (PHS) has published updated guidance to support those working in social, community and residential care settings and users of their services about Covid-19. The guidance is now the advised guidance for adult and older adult care homes registered with the Care Inspectorate and has been updated to reflect the pausing of asymptomatic testing. It also reflects the Scottish Government's updated guidance on the use of face coverings in social care settings including adult care homes.



Alcohol and Drugs

[PHS has published quarterly report on the National Naloxone Programme](#)

Public Health Scotland (PHS) has published its quarterly monitoring bulletin on the National Naloxone Programme (NNP) in Scotland, which aims to prevent fatal opioid overdoses. Naloxone is a drug which reverses the effects of a potentially fatal overdose and provides time for emergency services to arrive and provide further treatment. The report notes that during the period from 1 January 2022 to 31 March 2022, 6,552 Take-Home Naloxone (THN) kits were issued. A total of 28,852 THN kits were supplied in financial year 2021/22, the highest annual total since the beginning of the NNP.

[New guidance highlights the link between alcohol and cancer](#)

The BBC has highlighted new guidance issued to health workers in Scotland which notes the link between drinking alcohol and cancer. The guide, published by Scottish Action on Alcohol Problems (SHAPP), suggests that professionals can help reduce alcohol-related cancer risks by helping patients to reduce their intake.

Alzheimer's/Dementia

[Blog highlights communication barriers for those living with dementia](#)

The Dementia Services Development Centre (DSDC) has published a blog on behaviour and communication for those with dementia and their carers. The blog highlights the barriers to communication faced by those living with dementia and the need for caregivers to interpret their behaviour, which is often exhibited to try and communicate what they need. The blog notes a number of 'tools' which can be used to interpret behaviour and meet the needs of people with dementia, including getting to know the individual's lifestyle and longstanding routines, and identifying any specific situations that seem to 'trigger' the behaviour.

[New tool launched to make premises more accessible to an aging population](#)

The Environments for Aging and Dementia Design Assessment Tool (EADDAT) has been officially launched by the Dementia Services Development Centre (DSDC). The new tool has been created to support families, businesses and professionals to make homes, premises and public places more accessible to an ageing population and those living with dementia. It combines the latest research on designing for cognitive change with the expertise of leading architects and replaces the DSDC's Dementia Design Audit Tool which was first developed in 2008.



Care Homes/Care at Home

[Iriss publish care home quality assurance review](#)

Iriss has published its review of care home quality assurance during the pandemic. The report finds improvement at care homes was most likely when quality assurance was co-produced, collegiate, and focused on what was best for residents and staff. It identified factors preventing effective improvement, including framing quality assurance as “oversight or inspection”, cultures of blame, a lack of clarity and overwhelming processes.

[Data from Care home census for adults in Scotland published](#)

Public Health Scotland (PHS) has published the findings of the Care home census for adults in Scotland: 2012-22. It is noted that this does not include 2019/20 data as the census was cancelled during the Covid-19 pandemic. Since 2012 the data shows that the number of care homes decreased by 20%, registered places also decreased by 5%. Although the overall number of residents decreased by 11% the estimated number of admissions for long stay residents to care homes for older people increased by 15% in 2021/22, when compared with 2011/12. Over the same period, the estimated number of admissions for respite residents decreased by 74%

End of Life/Palliative Care

[Assisted Dying for adults’ consultation summary published](#)

The Scottish Government has published the consultation summary for the proposed Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill. The consultation received the highest number of responses received to date for a consultation for a proposed Member’s Bill in the Scottish Parliament. A clear majority of respondents, 10,687 (76%) were fully supportive of the proposal, with a further 244 (2%) partially supportive. A minority of the overall number of respondents, 2,975 (21%), were fully opposed to the proposal, with a further 52 (0.4%) partially opposed.

Mental Health

[SAMH appoint new Chair of the Board of Trustees](#)

The Scottish Association for Mental Health (SAMH) has announced the appointment of Steve Dunlop as the new Chair of the Board of Trustees, as current Chair, Chris Creegan steps down. Steve has held a wide range of roles including several leadership roles at key Scottish and UK organisations.

Other Health and Social Care

[Guidance published on getting involved in designing a National Care Service](#)

Guidance on requesting to join the Lived Experience Experts Panel and National Care Service (NCS) Stakeholder Register has been published by the Scottish Government. The Government announced that applications are now open for both



groups, noting that those representing an organisation with an interest in health and social care can apply to take part in the Stakeholder Register. Individuals living in Scotland wishing to share their views on how the future NCS should look can apply to be part of the Lived Experience Experts Panel, which is open to those over the age of 18. The guidance also notes that specific events for children, young people and their families will be organised.

[Annual rates for the Core Suite of Integration Indicators published](#)

Public Health Scotland (PHS) has published the annual rates for the Core Suite of Integration Indicators for each integration authority in Scotland. The statistical report provides annual rates based on the Health and Care Experience Survey, which asks about people's experience of accessing and using various services, and data collected for other purposes such as hospital activity data.

[New members appointed to Scottish Human Rights Commission](#)

Three new part-time members have been appointed to the Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC). The Scottish Parliament has confirmed that Jim Farish, Shelley Gray and Claire Methven O'Brien will take up their positions on 26 September 2022.

[Scottish Government outlines how the NCS Bill would make changes to Carers \(Scotland\) Act 2016](#)

The Scottish Government has published a document to help understand sections 38 and 39 of the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill on rights to breaks for carers. The document shows the changes that the Bill would make to the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016.

[What to do if you're not receiving the adult social care workers minimum pay](#)

The Scottish Government has published information for adult social care workers on what to do and who to contact if they are not receiving the minimum rate of pay. The minimum rate of pay for adult social care workers delivering direct care in Scotland increased from £10.02 to £10.50 per hour on 1 April 2022.

**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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