

14 – 20 October 2022



bulletin



Covid-19 - General



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[Latest modelling of Covid-19 published by Scottish Government](#)

The Scottish Government has published its latest findings in modelling the spread and level of Covid-19 in Scotland. It notes the reproduction rate R in Scotland is currently estimated as being between 0.9 and 1.2, as of 27th September. Both the lower limit and the upper limit have increased since the last publication.

[Scottish Government publishes final Coronavirus Act report](#)

The Scottish Government has published the fifteenth and final two-monthly report to the Scottish Parliament on the Coronavirus Acts. The report sets out the status and operation of the legislation that was necessary to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic.



Looked After and Accommodated Children

[New partnerships announced to support young people leaving care](#)

Action for Children has highlighted a new plan announced by the John Lewis Partnership to support young people leaving the care system to find meaningful jobs. The Partnership announced a multi-year plan which includes establishing the Building Happier Futures employment programme to bring more young people who are care experienced into the Partnership and national charity partnerships with Action for Children and Who Cares? Scotland to support those moving from care to independent living.

Mental Health

[New research shows consequences of school closures on family wellbeing](#)

The Nuffield Foundation has published research exploring the consequences of school closures during the pandemic for family wellbeing. Findings from the research note that mothers and fathers with children aged 4-12 reported worse mental health during the pandemic than a comparable sample of parents interviewed in the same months before the pandemic. The research highlights that differences were larger for mothers than fathers. It also suggests that school closures had a significant detrimental effect on mothers' mental health, similar in size to the deterioration in mental health experienced in the run-up to a divorce or following a partner's job loss.

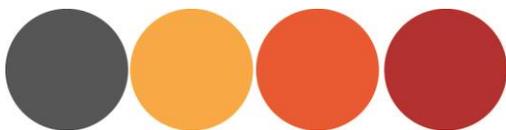
Other Health and Social Care

[Children and Young People's Commissioner has published its annual report](#)

The Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland (CYPCS) has published its 2021-2022 annual report covering the period from April 2021 to March 2022. During this period, the CYPCS has continued to push for incorporation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), published its secure care investigation and worked to make sure children in conflict with the law have their rights respected, and focused on other strategic priorities such as child poverty, mental health, and climate justice. An [easy read](#) version of the report has also been published.

[Barnardo's reports more than half of parents forced to cut back on food spending](#)

Barnardo's has highlighted new research figures suggesting more than 54% of parents with children aged 18 or under in Great Britain have been forced to cut back on food spending for their family over the past 12 months as a way of helping to save money. Barnardo's has raised concerns about the impact on children as 26% of parents said their child's mental health has worsened due to the rise in cost of living. Barnardo's also noted that it is providing emergency support to children and families to pay for food, help with heating, warm clothing and to purchase goods such as fridges and freezers.



[COSLA and The Promise have approved a Partnership Agreement](#)

COSLA has announced the approval of a partnership agreement with The Promise. The agreement outlines how both organisations will work in partnership and collaboration to raise the profile of crucial work for children, young people and families and to support policy and project development between now and 2030.

[Government outlines actions taken to fulfil human rights for everyone in Scotland](#)

The Scottish Government has published a position statement for the UK's Universal Periodic Review (UPR) 2022. It sets out the actions taken in devolved areas since 2017 to respect, protect, and fulfil the human rights of everyone in Scotland. The UPR is a review of the overall human rights records of all UN Member States and is coordinated by the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC). The statement notes the Scottish Government has accepted all 30 of the recommendations from the National Taskforce for Human Rights Leadership for a new human rights framework for Scotland.

[Scottish Children's Reporter to review letters sent in the Children's Hearing System](#)

The Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) has announced the start of a new project to review and update all the letters it sends to children, young people, parents and carers in the Children's Hearing System. The SCRA wants the letters to be as easily understood and accessible as possible while making sure they are legally correct.

[Phase two of the Access All Arts Fund now open for applications](#)

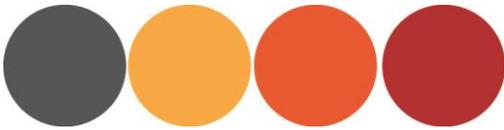
Children in Scotland has highlighted the launch of phase two of the Access All Arts Fund. The Fund is delivered by Children in Scotland as part of Creative Scotland's youth arts funding and is now open for applications. It aims to help children and young people experience creative arts opportunities and strengthen wellbeing as a result. The deadline for applications is 14 November 2022.

[The SCRA has published a progress report on implementing 40 Calls to Action](#)

The Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) has published a progress report on its work to implement the 40 Calls to Action to improve the Children's Hearings System. The report notes improvements to Hearing rooms and new information materials, including new rights leaflets for children and young people.

[Learning for Sustainability project now open for applications](#)

The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Partnership has been asked by the Scottish Government to administer funding that programme providers can apply for to support the work they are doing in the area of Learning for Sustainability. The funding follows a report by the SCQF which identified some of the



barriers faced by providers to having programmes credit rated on the SCQF. The closing date for applications is Friday 11 November 2022.

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.

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