




# Adult and Health



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## **Covid-19 - General**

### [Winter vaccines available for remaining priority groups](#)

Over-50s can now book their winter vaccines to help protect them from Covid-19 and flu and to ease pressure on the NHS this winter. More than 870,000 people have already come forward for their vaccines, including healthcare staff, care home residents, over 65s and those at high risk.

### [Uptake of booster low among health and social care staff](#)

The BBC reports on Public Health Scotland statistics on vaccine uptake, which suggest rates among health and social care workers remain low. The data shows only 39 per cent of health staff and 20 per cent of social care staff have had their winter Covid booster.



## **Alzheimer's/Dementia**

### [Guidance to support people with learning disabilities who have dementia](#)

New guidance developed by Healthcare Improvement Scotland and the Care Inspectorate will help care homes provide appropriate support for people with learning disabilities who have a diagnosis of dementia. The national guidance focuses on people with a learning disability and advancing dementia who are moving to a care home because their needs have increased and aims to ensure this transition is appropriate and provides the best outcomes for the individual.

## **Mental Health**

### [Over 17,000 people living with welfare guardianship in Scotland](#)

The Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland has published the Adults With Incapacity Act monitoring report 2021-22. They found a total of 17,101 individuals were subject to a guardianship order in 2022, compared to 16,033 in 2021. A total of 3,371 guardianship orders were granted in 2021-22, 52 per cent more than in 2020-21. The MWC expected these increases with the expiry of the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020 and services remobilising with a return to normal. They have supported proposals for reform of the system to make it less complex and better for the individuals.

## **Older People**

### [Views on older people's health and social care strategy published](#)

Following a recent consultation, the Scottish Government has now published its analysis of views on a health and social care strategy for older people. Ministers are now considering how a health and social care strategy for older people might benefit from improvements realised through a National Care Service (NCS) and how the gathered views through this consultation can best inform the NCS development discussions. The government therefore proposes extending the timeframe for development of a strategy in order to take account of, and contribute to, the development of the NCS. The government will continue to develop a new national strategy for palliative and end of life care and the responses to this consultation will also inform that strategy.

## **Other Health and Social Care**

### [Independent Review of Inspection, Scrutiny and Regulation – call for evidence](#)

The Scottish Government has launched a call for evidence to inform the Independent Review of Inspection, Scrutiny and Regulation (IRISR). A range of in person and virtual engagement events across November and December have also been announced. The consultation questions are based around the following five themes:

- Theme 1 - A person centred approach
- Theme 2 - What needs to be inspected, scrutinised and regulated
- Theme 3 - How should inspection scrutiny and regulation be carried out



- Theme 4 - How will we know systems are working
- Theme 5 - How will systems of inspection scrutiny and regulation support the workforce

The consultation closes on 23 December 2022. The IRISR is expected to report in June 2023 and will make recommendations to ensure that social care support services are the best that they can be for those that use them and work within them.

#### [Patient Safety Commissioner for Scotland Bill – call for evidence](#)

The Scottish Parliament Health, Social Care and Sport Committee has launched a consultation on the Patient Safety Commissioner for Scotland Bill. The bill seeks to establish a new parliamentary commissioner which would be independent of the NHS and government. The commissioner would promote and improve patient safety by amplifying the patient voice within the patient safety system, develop a system-wide view of the healthcare system in Scotland and use it to identify wider safety issues, and promote better coordination across the patient safety landscape in Scotland in responding to concerns about safety issues.

#### [ALLIANCE reports on engaging people with lived experience](#)

A report commissioned by the ALLIANCE looks at engaging with people with lived experience, covering best practice, challenges and opportunities. The research reflects on the growing practice in Scotland to ensure the voices of people's expertise and knowledge through their lived experience is valued and listened to. The report notes that despite this shift, there remains issues with giving people sufficient time or resources become fully involved.

#### [Webinar on updated quality framework for housing support services](#)

The Care Inspectorate is inviting people working in housing support services to attend a webinar to introduce the updated housing support services quality framework and self-evaluation toolkit. The event takes place on 22 November.

#### [CQC Annual Report \(England\)](#)

The Care Quality Commission has published its annual report on the state of health and social care in England. The report finds most people in England are still receiving good care when they get it, but notes ongoing issues with accessibility and capacity with only two in five people able to leave hospital when ready to do so. It calls for greater long-term planning and investment and for local areas to take a whole system view which recognises the relationship between health and care. It also argues for better quality data and data sharing arrangements and for workforce shortages to be addressed.



## Other

### [SPICe publish briefing on Human Rights Budgeting](#)

SPICe has published a briefing on human rights budgeting (HRB). The Scottish Government has proposed a Human Rights Bill which would enshrine many economic, social and cultural rights into Scots law but resources must be made available for those to be realised in practice. The briefing explains HRB is when budget decisions are determined by the impact on people's rights. Human rights principles can be applied to budgeting through both the process of setting a budget, driven by principles of transparency, participation and accountability, as well as to the content of the budget. The briefing explores how HRB could work in practice through a case study group of people with learning disabilities.

### [New Prime Minister announced](#)

Liz Truss, leader of the Conservative party and Prime Minister resigned on Thursday 20 October after 45 days in office. Rishi Sunak was appointed as new Prime Minister as there was no viable opposition from within the Conservative party. Mr Sunak was sworn in by King Charles on Tuesday 26 October and gave his first audience at Prime Ministers Questions on Wednesday 27 October.

## 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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