




Adult and Health



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Covid-19 - General

[New Chair of Covid-19 Inquiry](#)

In a ministerial statement to the Scottish Parliament, the Deputy First Minister John Swinney has announced the new Chair of the Covid-19 Inquiry will be Lord Brailsford. The terms of reference will also be supplemented to require the Inquiry “To demonstrate how a human rights based approach by the inquiry has contributed to the inquiry’s findings in fact and recommendations.” The [Factsheet](#) for the Inquiry has also been updated to include the letter to Lord Brailsford.

[Amended face coverings guidance](#)

Scottish Government guidance for staff within acute hospitals, community hospitals, primary care and wider community healthcare has had text amendments made.



Alzheimer's/Dementia

[Research fund for dementia and brain health projects](#)

Alzheimer Scotland has announced a new funding programme for student research, supported by the Scottish Dementia Research Consortium, for projects for dementia and brain health in Scotland. In the first year of the programme, two MRes projects will be funded relating to the intersection of the research themes “Living with Dementia” and “Diagnosis”.

Care Homes/Care at Home

[Scottish Care Autumn Bulletin](#)

Scottish Care has published their Autumn Bulletin, covering many topics including Homecare Day 2022, an introduction to the new Chief Executive of the Care Inspectorate, and Disclosure Scotland update.

Disabilities

[Impact of the cost of living crisis on disabled people and unpaid carers](#)

The ALLIANCE has published a report on the impact of the rising cost of living on disabled people, people with long term conditions and unpaid carers. The report highlights that the current crisis builds on and exacerbates existing inequalities, and longer term action is needed to address root causes. Amongst other recommendations, the ALLIANCE is calling for the Scottish Government to offer emergency cost of living payments.

Justice

[Overview report for MAPPAs](#)

The Scottish Government has published a national overview report for 2021/22 for the main national developments in relation to Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPAs). The report covers the national picture, MAPPAs developments and national guidance, risk management, the Scottish Prison Service, health, Sex offender Community Disclosure Scheme, Social Work Scotland and Social Security Scotland.

Mental Health

[Detentions for mental health treatment](#)

The Mental Welfare Commission (MWC) has published a report on detentions in hospitals for mental health treatment in Scotland in 2021/22. Overall detentions have slightly dropped by 2.3% to 6,569, but the MWC also highlights the clear association between mental ill health and social deprivation, with 39% of all emergency detentions happening to people from the 20% most deprived areas. There are also concerns over the lack of consent from a mental health officer (a



specialist social worker) when emergency detentions take place. In 2021-22 this was at its lowest level in 10 years: only 40.5% of these detentions involved mental health officers, and in one health board area – Greater Glasgow and Clyde – the figure dropped to only 22%.

Other Health and Social Care

[Revised guidance on assessment of staffing levels for premised-based services](#)

The Care Inspectorate's Safe Staffing programme, in collaboration with stakeholders and colleagues, has revised the guidance for providers on the assessment of staffing levels: premise-based services. This revised guidance is designed to support providers of care homes, premises-based support services, school care accommodation, secure care and premises-based offender accommodation to have clear information on the effective assessment of safe staffing.

[Views sought on Patient Safety Commissioner proposals](#)

The Scottish Parliament's Health, Social Care and Sport Committee has launched a consultation on proposals for a Patient Safety Commissioner for Scotland Bill. The Bill would grant investigatory and information-gathering powers to the Commissioner, who would publish reports on systemic safety issues in patient health care and make recommendations as to how these could be addressed. The Commissioner would also ensure the concerns of patients in relation to patient safety issues are heard and dealt with in a coordinated and effective manner, and would have responsibility for promoting and improving patient safety, identifying safety issues within the healthcare system and helping support system-wide improvements.

[Evidence sessions on National Care Service Bill](#)

The Health, Social Care and Sport Committee held an evidence session for its scrutiny of the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill, with a panel focused on legislative considerations for the incorporation of human rights approaches within the bill, and a second panel focused on local government perspectives of the bill. The [Finance and Public Administration Committee](#) also discussed the details of the Financial Memorandum for the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill including its impact on the third sector, service providers and users, and the level of data provided.

Other

[Using data to address challenges](#)

Audit Scotland has published a blog on the use of data to tackle issues such as an ageing population and corresponding pressures on health and care services, cost of living crisis, and focusing on prevention and longer-term outcomes. The blog discusses eliminating duplication, focusing resources on preventative measures (and data), and building data skills and a data culture across public bodies.



[Emergency budget published](#)
[Conference on community social work \(8 November 2022\)](#)

Iriss is highlighting an upcoming conference showcasing community social work in Dunfermline on 8 November 2022. Speakers include Iona Colvin, Chief Social Work Advisor, and Fiona Duncan, Chair of The Promise, who will be providing opening remarks.

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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