



Children and Young People



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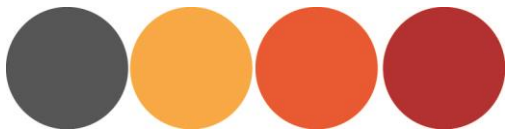
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Child Protection

[Review of Children's Rights progression since 2016 published](#)

The Scottish Government has published a report setting out the progress made on children's rights since 2016. The position statement is intended to assist civil society and the Scottish Parliament in scrutinising the Scottish Government's human rights record. The report details the context of the Covid pandemic and discusses how this has impacted the lives of children. The report also notes how children's rights are embedded into the National Performance Framework and sets out how children's rights are independently monitored in Scotland. The report looks at civil rights and freedoms of children, including their ability to move freely in public space and their right to privacy, violence against children, the needs of children in families and the care system, health and welfare, education, and special protections for vulnerable children. An [easy read](#) version of the document has also been published.



[Spike in death of homeless young people \(England/Wales\)](#)

The latest data from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) has highlighted that the number of homeless young people (aged 16 – 24 years old) deaths have increased reports Children and Young People Now. In 2021 31 young people died, which was an increase from 19 people in 2020 and 22 people in 2019. Of those that died in 2021, 13 are recorded as being aged 16 to 19 and 18 are recorded as being aged 20 to 24. Most homeless young people who died in 2021 were men, the records show, with just five female deaths reported. Youth homeless charity Centrepunt predict that there will be 30,000 homeless young people this winter with their research showing that two in five UK adults aged 18-34 have worried about being able to keep a roof over their heads in the last 12 months.

Early Learning and Childcare

[Consultation into the future development of ELC inspection activity has now closed](#)

The recent Scottish Government consultation into the future development of ELC inspection activity has now closed. The Care Inspectorate are awaiting the responses and feedback from the Scottish Government and welcome the opportunity to take forward recommendations for the inspection of the sector. In the meantime, the Care Inspectorate and Education Scotland continue to work together on the joint approach to shared inspection activity for those ELC settings which provide funded ELC. For childminders providing funded ELC, the Care Inspectorate will continue to inspect these settings. We are committed to both organisations working together and are listening to feedback about streamlining the inspection processes for shared inspections

Education

[National Discussion on Education sessions announced](#)

The Scottish Government has announced forthcoming events as part of its National Discussion on Education. The online sessions will take place on Tuesday 22 and Wednesday 23 November, as well as on Thursday 1 December; and anyone with an interest in Scottish education is invited to participate. Participants will be able to speak directly to education experts Professor Alma Harris and Professor Carol Campbell, who are facilitating the project.

[CELCIS Education Forum: Discussion on the future of Scottish Education](#)

The Scottish Government and The Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) are inviting everyone who has an interest in the future of Scotland's education system to join a National Discussion to help develop a vision for the future of education in Scotland. The online meeting will take place on Monday 28 November from 2pm – 3:30pm on Microsoft Teams to discuss views on the future of the education system and gather feedback on the questions that the Scottish Government and COSLA have set. The meeting is open to anyone who is currently



working in, or has previously worked in, a Scottish education setting with a focus on improving educational experiences and outcomes for care experienced learners.

[Let's Talk Scottish Education online events](#)

The Scottish Government and COSLA have launched a National Discussion on the vision for education in Scotland - "Let's Talk Scottish Education." Open until 5 December 2022, this is an unprecedented opportunity for children, young people (aged three to 18) and those who support them to have their voices heard in a debate which will establish a compelling and consensual twenty-year vision for Scottish education. A series of online National Discussion events will give the opportunity to contribute views on the future of Scottish Education directly with the independent facilitators Professor Carol Campbell and Professor Alma Harris.

- **Thursday 1 December 7pm - 8pm - Online** (BSL interpreter & automated Closed Captions)

In addition to these events, the team has developed a range of fully adaptable [discussion guides](#) to help prompt discussions around the country to support this National Discussion at a local level.

[Education Scotland director elected president of international inspection council](#)

Education Scotland's Strategic Director for Inspection, Janie McManus, has recently been appointed president of the Standing International Conference of Inspectorates (SICI). SICI is a European organisation which supports best practice in Inspection in all member countries and organisations.

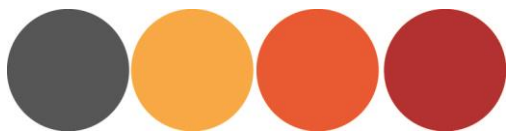
Health

[Minister writes to Education, Children and Young People Committee about NCS](#)

Clare Haughey has written to the Education, Children and Young People Committee with National Care Service Bill correspondence on children's services research. The letter states the Centre for Excellence for Children's Care and Protection will conduct independent research on the delivery of children's services and gather evidence to inform how best to deliver children's services in the light of the introduction of the National Care Service.

[Equally Valued podcast, Scotland's NCS what do we know?](#)

Equally Valued brings together the insights of the ALLIANCE, Scotland's largest health and social care third sector organisation, with the journalism of healthandcare.scot to focus on an issue of the moment for health and social care across Scotland. The most recent episode focuses on the National Care Service (NCS) and how it has changed since the Feeley Reports original recommendations. It features comments from an advisor to the Independent Review of Social Care, Dr Jim Elder-Woodward, who is also a service user and former commissioner, manager, and researcher of social care support.



[NCS and children's services event summary report published](#)

The ALLIANCE have published an event summary report on the potential inclusion of children's services within the National Care Service. One of the elements under consideration within the implementation of the National Care Service is the potential inclusion of children and young adults' services. The Bill leaves the option to include children and young people's services within the NCS, following a period of consultation and further research, but the decision as to whether to include children's services within the NCS has not yet been reached.

[New study shows waiting six months after a miscarriage has no health benefit](#)

A new study published by [PLoS Medicine](#) analysing 72,000 conceptions suggests there are no health benefits for couples to wait at least six months after a miscarriage or abortion to try to conceive again, reports the BBC. The current guidance from the World Health Organisation (WHO) suggests that there should be at least a six-month gap to conceive again, to give women time to recover. However, baby loss charity Tommy's says that women who feel ready can try again immediately provided there is no medical reason against this. The WHO reportedly commented that more research is needed in this area as this new study contradicts an earlier one in Latin America which helped inform the current WHO recommendations.

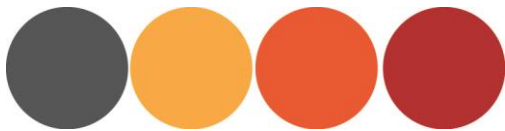
Justice

[CYCPS develop new guide to legal powers](#)

The Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland (CYPCS) has developed a new guide explaining how they use their legal powers. The Strategic Litigation Toolkit – established with help from their [Young Advisers](#) Ibukun, Lewis, and Sophie – defines the Commissioner's powers, sets out how they involve children and young people in strategic litigation, and shows how they choose the legal cases to become involved in.

[HM Inspectorate of Prosecution in Scotland annual report 2021-2022 published](#)

The HM Inspectorate of Prosecution in Scotland (IPS) annual report sets out the work of the IPS between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022, noting that in this period, IPS published an inspection of how Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) manages criminal allegations against the police. IPS concluded that the quality of decision making by COPFS in such cases is good but also found that there is scope for improvement and made a number of recommendations. The annual report also notes that the IPS commenced two new inspections in this period.



Looked After and Accommodated Children

[Council urged to adopt 'Care Experienced' as protected characteristic \(England\)](#)

Nottinghamshire County Council is being urged to adopt care experience as a protected characteristic ahead of a debate by councillors on the vulnerabilities of care leavers, reports Children and Young People Now. The initial motion states Nottinghamshire “recognises that care-experienced people face significant barriers that impact them throughout their lives”. According to [the agenda for the full council meeting](#), councillors will be asked to agree to a motion in which the council pledges to: Recognise that care-experienced people are a vulnerable group who can face discrimination when making any decisions in relation to policies or formulating a council plan. However, in a letter to councillors Tracey Taylor and Sinead Anderson, members of the corporate parenting panel, Terry Galloway, leader of the campaign for local authorities to adopt care experience as a protected characteristic, urges the council to strengthen the motion. While Nottinghamshire County Council debates its motion, Galloway will address councillors in Edinburgh, calling on them to adopt care experience as a protected characteristic.

[Minister writes to Committee about kinship carers](#)

Clare Haughey has written to the Social Justice and Social Security Committee regarding the committee’s report on Kinship Carers. In the letter, the Minister for Children and Young People has responded to the recommendations in the report and notes she will keep the committee updated with the work of the Kinship Care Collaborative.

Mental Health

[Students call on cap of student numbers to protect mental health](#)

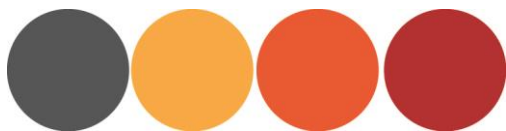
The University of Glasgow’s student council is calling for a cap on student numbers to protect mental health, reports BBC. The student council argue that the additional 10,000 students had put additional strain on accommodation and was damaging welfare and quality of education. The University does not believe this has had a “significant negative impact” and blamed the issue relating to housing on the shrinking private rental market in Glasgow.

Other Health and Social Care

[Updates to safeguarding for Homes for Ukraine scheme](#)

The Scottish Government has updated the safeguarding section in its guidance for local authorities on the Scottish Government’s Super Sponsorship Scheme and Scotland’s responsibilities under the UK Government’s Homes for Ukraine scheme.

[Innovation projects in children’s social care evaluation report published \(England\)](#)



The Public Accounts Committee has published a report on evaluating innovation projects in children’s social care. The report examines the Department for Education’s £333 million programme to see what delivers best for children in the care system. Meg Hillier, committee chair, said: “Reports of councils paying a million pounds a year, of taxpayers’ money, for a residential place for a single child with complex needs are a reminder of the cost to the taxpayer, and not always an indicator that the young person is getting the right support. In an historic public spending squeeze, getting better outcomes for the money spent is a win-win that we all want to see”.

[Social Carers Week 5 – 9 December 2022](#)

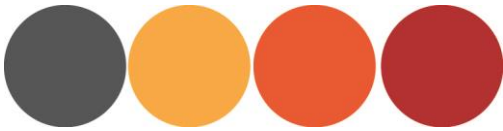
This will be the first online social cares week held by SSSC between 5 – 9 December 2022. The events are free to attend and are delivered in partnership with [Developing the Young Workforce \(DYW\) Live](#) and the [National e-Learning Offer](#), the week is aimed at secondary pupils across Scotland and their teachers to help them learn more about a career in social care and where it could take them. Over the week there will be daily online sessions where pupils can hear directly from people working in different roles to demystify what social care workers do every day, discuss the career pathways available and the valuable skills that young people can bring to social care.

[Representation of people of colour among children’s book creators in the UK report](#)

The BookTrust has published a new report relating to representation of people of colour among children’s book creators in the UK. Since the first research was published in 2019 there has been progress in the form of opportunities, communities, and representation. Only 4% of book creators in 2007 were people of colour, this increased to 11.7% in 2021. The report highlights the steps that have been made, however it also outlines that more can be done to increase representation.

[SCLD blog on meeting with the Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care](#)

The Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities (SCLD) has published a blog following a meeting between Kevin Stewart, Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care, and its Include for Good Rapporteurs. The meeting focused on eight topics which were drawn from personal experiences, including employment, health, identity, transport, media and culture, education, access to justice, and lifelong support.

**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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