

10- 16 March 2023



bulletin



Adult
and
Health



[Covid-19 - General](#)

[Alcohol and Drugs](#)

[Alzheimer's/Dementia](#)

[Justice](#)

[Disability](#)

[Older People](#)

[Other Health & Social Care](#)

Covid-19 - General

[Updated Covid-19 guidance for social, community and residential care settings](#)

Public Health Scotland (PHS) has updated its Covid-19 guidance for social, community and residential care settings, which also covers prison settings. The updated guidance includes updates in the PPE and face coverings section, updated advice on essential visiting, and changes specific to prison settings.

[Covid-19 Inquiry announces thematic approach to investigations](#)

The Scottish Covid-19 Inquiry has announced it will take a thematic approach to its investigations and hearings, giving priority to evidence from those most impacted by the pandemic. The themes are health and social care, education and young people, and finance, business and welfare. The Inquiry has also announced that it will hold its first public hearing this summer.



Alcohol and Drugs

[Quarterly report on suspected drug deaths for October to December 2022 published](#)

The Scottish Government has published a quarterly report on suspected drug deaths in Scotland covering the period from October to December 2022. The report notes there was an increase in suspected drug deaths in the most recent quarter compared to the previous quarter, with 296 suspected drug deaths recorded from October to December 2022. This is a 26% increase compared to the period from July to September 2022. The report also highlights that this is the highest number of suspected drug deaths recorded in a single quarter since April to June 2021.

Alzheimer's/Dementia

[Alzheimer Scotland highlights brain awareness week](#)

In a post marking the start of brain awareness week, Alzheimer Scotland has highlighted the importance of brain health and the importance of investing in dementia research.

Justice

[Committee publishes report on Bail and Release from Custody \(Scotland\) Bill](#)

The Criminal Justice Committee has published its Stage 1 report on the Bail and Release from Custody (Scotland) Bill. The report notes that even though members of the Committee agree there are useful provisions in the Bill, the Committee didn't reach a majority view on the general principles of the Bill. The Committee highlighted the need for adequate resources for the Bill to meet its policy objectives. The Committee also noted that releasing a prisoner on a Friday should be avoided as people released on a Friday may need to wait until the following Monday for support, increasing the risk of reoffending or making them vulnerable to others.

Disability

[Expert advisory group makes recommendations on disability and carer's assistance](#)

The Scottish Government has published a report containing recommendations from the Disability and Carer Benefits Expert Advisory Group on the additional positive impact the disability and carer's assistance could make. The report provides six calls for action for Scottish Ministers and provides recommendations related to these actions including gathering research to better understand the needs of carers and disabled people, and developing and implementing a Disability Poverty Action Plan and a Carer's Poverty Action Plan.



Older People

[ALLIANCE highlights call for views on standards of care for older people in hospitals](#)

The ALLIANCE has highlighted work by Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) to update the standards of care for older people in hospitals. HIS is seeking views and evidence relevant to the scope of the standards, which were originally drafted in 2015, by 7 April 2023. HIS is providing a number of ways for those interested to share their views including through an online survey, one-on-one interviews, and focus groups.

[Covid-19 spring booster leaflet for people aged 75 and over](#)

Public Health Scotland (PHS) has produced a leaflet for people aged 75 years and over, and residents in care homes for older adults with information on the Covid-19 spring booster vaccine. The leaflet includes information around who is being offered the spring booster vaccine, side effects of the vaccine, and how to prepare for vaccination.

Other Health and Social Care

[Annual update on the long-term monitoring of health inequalities published](#)

The Scottish Government has published an update report on the long-term monitoring of health inequalities. The report notes that healthy life expectancy (HLE) is lower for those living in the most deprived areas than those in least deprived areas. The report suggests that in 2019-2021, males in the most deprived areas were, on average, expected to live 25.8 fewer years in good health than those in the least deprived areas. Similarly, females in the most deprived areas were, on average, expected to live 25.7 fewer years in good health than those in the least deprived areas.

[Registration now open for NES annual conference 2023](#)

The NHS Education for Scotland (NES) annual conference will take place on Thursday 27 and Friday 28 April 2023. The event is aimed at professionals from health and social care, who have an interest in education and training, workforce development and digital solution. The event will be delivered virtually and is free of charge.



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.

It should also be noted that the Care Inspectorate has no liability in respect of the content of external websites which may be signposted on this site.