

17 – 23 March 2023



bulletin



Adult and Health



[Covid-19 - General](#)

[Alcohol and Drugs](#)

[Care Homes/Care at Home](#)

[Justice](#)

[Learning Disabilities](#)

[Other Health & Social Care](#)

Covid-19 - General

[Online tool for people with Long Covid](#)

The Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE) are highlighting a new online tool for people living with Long Covid to manage their symptoms. Jointly produced by Let's Get On With It Together (LGOWIT) and Covid Aid, the online portal is open for registration until 31 March.

[Spring Booster information published](#)

Public Health Scotland has published a Covid-19 vaccine spring booster leaflet for people aged 5 and over with a weakened immune system.



Alcohol and Drugs

[Impact of alcohol minimum unit pricing \(MUP\) on deaths and hospital admissions](#)

Public Health Scotland (PHS) and The Lancet have published a study on the impact of alcohol minimum unit pricing (MUP) on deaths and hospital admissions attributable to alcohol consumption. Carried out in collaboration with the University of Glasgow, the study has evaluated the impact of MUP on alcohol health harms, over the first two-and-half years of the policy. PHS has also published a [report](#) collating existing research on changes in alcohol consumption and related health harms in Scotland, England and the UK during the COVID pandemic.

Care Homes/Care at Home

[Applying to register an existing care service \(care homes for adults and daycare of children\)](#)

The Care Inspectorate has published a new position statement on applying to register a care service (care homes for adults and daycare of children). It explains the registration process and why care providers must be registered with us. It highlights what to do when registering existing care service premises, including links to good practice guidance, and provides answers to frequently asked questions to support applicants.

[Follow-up review on state of oral health care in care homes \(England\)](#)

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) has published the findings of a follow-up review on the state of oral health care in care homes across England. This review reportedly shows there have been improvements in the understanding of how important oral health is to keep people healthy.

Justice

[Process for accessing the Prison to Rehab Pathway](#)

The Scottish Government has published 'Prison to Rehab Protocol', setting out the process for prison based staff, residential rehabilitation providers and individuals on accessing the pathway, which supports individuals leaving prison who would benefit from accessing abstinence based treatment on release. This procedure should be used by Scottish Prison Service (SPS), Prison Health Care Service and Residential Rehabilitation Providers.

Learning Disabilities

[Learning disability and gender-based violence](#)

The Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities (SCLD) and People First (Scotland)'s Equally Safe Group has published a report, 'Unheard, Unequal, Unjust: But not Hidden Anymore', on the experience of gender based violence of women with learning disabilities in Scotland. The research findings and the report's



recommendations are a culmination of the first year of a two-year project funded by Delivering Equally Safe. Reportedly finding evidence of wide-ranging abuse experienced by women with learning disabilities, including inconsistent approaches to support at a local level, the use of restrictive legislative when they report crimes of gender-based violence, as well as a lack of consistent data collection and monitoring on reports of gender-based violence and how this is addressed at both a national and local level, the report also makes recommendations to improve the lives of women with learning disabilities in Scotland.

Other Health and Social Care

[Joint inspection of adult support and protection in the Western Isles](#)

The Care Inspectorate has published a joint inspection of adult support and protection measures in the Western Isles, which finds important areas of weakness that could adversely affect experiences and outcomes for adults at risk of harm, and also identifies substantial areas for improvement. The report found that the delivery of key processes was ineffective. Investigation, risk assessment and risk management require significant improvement to effectively support and protect adults at risk of harm. It also reported that adults at risk of harm were ineffectively involved and engaged in operational and strategic adult support and protection.

[Inspection of adult social work and social care services in the city of Edinburgh](#)

The Care Inspectorate has published an inspection report on adult social work and social care services in the City of Edinburgh, which has found structural weaknesses in the planning and delivery of services in the health, social work and social care system. This has resulted in too many people and carers not receiving services at the right time or place.

[Meeting qualification conditions](#)

The SSSC has published statistics on how many social care staff are currently registered with a condition to obtain a relevant qualification within the next five years. The SSSC has also published [statistics](#) on the number of ongoing fitness to practise cases currently under consideration by its fitness to practise department, alongside [statistics](#) on the number of these cases dealing with residential childcare.

[Sustainable greener prescribing](#)

The Royal College of General Practitioners Scotland (RCGP) and the Royal Pharmaceutical Society Scotland (RPS) have hosted a virtual roundtable event discussing how to reduce the environmental harms of prescribing. It has also been announced that the Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network will launch a Short Life Working Group to develop an implementation strategy for sustainable prescribing guidelines.



[Annual survey of social workers](#)

The British Association of Social Workers (BASW) has published their annual survey of social workers and students from across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Whilst the survey reportedly shows that 59% are happy in their profession, it also highlights the high demands experienced by social workers by the cost-of-living crisis and worsening levels of poverty across the UK.

[Public Health Scotland appoints new Chief Executive](#)

The Chair of Public Health Scotland (PHS) has announced the appointment of a new Chief Executive, Paul Johnston. Mr Johnston joins PHS from the Scottish Government, where he has been a Director General since June 2015.

[Project on digital tools to support health and wellbeing](#)

The Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE) has launched a 'Discover Digital' project which aims to raise awareness of digital tools to support health and wellbeing. The resource covers digital self management, digital NHS services and technology enabled care.

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.