


Adult
and
Health[Alzheimer's/Dementia](#)[End of Life/Palliative Care](#)[Equalities](#)[Mental Health](#)[Other Health & Social Care](#)[Workforce](#)**Alzheimer's/Dementia**[Unpaid carers taking on majority of caring responsibilities](#)

The Alzheimer's Society has highlighted the findings of its latest survey of over 1000 unpaid carers. The survey found that 80% of those who are classed as primary carers are taking on the majority of caring responsibilities for loved ones living with dementia. The survey findings also highlight the isolation felt by unpaid carers, with 27% reporting that they lacked frequent social contact with others.

End of Life/Palliative Care[Charity highlights Scots travel to Swiss clinics for end-of-life option](#)

STV News has reported on figures by Friends At The End (FATE) which suggest at least 25 Scots have travelled to Swiss clinics where assisted dying is possible. The article notes the charity's support for MSP Liam McArthur's Scottish Parliament member's Bill to enable mentally competent adults who are terminally ill to be provided with help to end their life if they request.



Equalities

[Report warns of increasing cost-of-living concerns for disabled Scots](#)

STV News has highlighted a recent report by the Scottish Independent Living Coalition (SILC) warning the United Nations of little to no improvement since the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) was published in 2016. The SILC produced the report on behalf the Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC) and warned of the increasing cost-of-living concerns that disabled Scots are facing.

Mental Health

[Mental Health Officers 2022 report published by SSSC](#)

A new report by the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) shows a rise of over 9% in the overall hours estimated to be spent on Mental Health Officer (MHO) duties each week and an increase of over 7% in the weekly average hours worked per MHO post. The 2022 report is the SSSC's eleventh annual report on the MHO workforce. It includes data on MHOs at a Scotland level and local authority level, including the number of practicing MHOs, and key characteristics of the MHO workforce and the type of teams they work in

[Commission highlights impact of environment where care is provided](#)

The Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland has published eight new reports on hospital wards and other facilities in Scotland. The Commission has highlighted the impact of the environment where care is provided in almost all of the reports. The Commission's executive director said, "Even though we heard about the positive impact of staff, and the care and treatment they continue to provide, doing this in a modern, fit-for purpose setting could make a significant difference to an individual's recovery."

[900% increase in Google searches for private autism assessments](#)

Learning Disability Today (LDT) has highlighted an analysis by Brain in Hand which suggests that in the last three months there has been a 900% increase in Google searches related to private autism and ADHD assessment in the UK. LDT has noted that NICE guidance states no one should wait longer than three months for an assessment following a referral, however it suggests that 86% of people have been waiting for longer than 13 weeks and some have been waiting for over two years.

[Psychiatrists raise concerns over mental health funding in Scotland](#)

The Royal College of Psychiatrists in Scotland has urged the First Minister to act on drop in mental health funding. STV News has reported that research by the professional medical body for psychiatry in Scotland found that frontline NHS spend on mental health reduced from 9.12% of the budget in 2011/12 to 8.78% in 2021/22. In a letter to the First Minister, the Royal College of Psychiatrists in Scotland raised



concerns around mental health funding and warned of the pressures faced by mental health staff.

Other Health and Social Care

[NCS regional co-design events](#)

Maree Todd, the Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport, has written to the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee to provide an update on the National Care Service (NCS) regional co-design events taking place across Scotland and plans for the 2023 NCS National Forum. Events were held in Stirling, Glasgow, Dundee, Stranraer, Oban, Skye and Strathpeffer throughout the summer with more than 200 people attending. She noted that the second NCS National Forum will take place on 30 October at the Glasgow Science Centre. The event will also have an online component so that people can take part virtually.

[Consultation analysis on mobility component of ADP](#)

The Scottish Government has published an independent analysis of the responses to the consultation on the eligibility criteria for the mobility component of the Adult Disability Payment (ADP). Respondents called for broad improvements to ADP and for a holistic, person-centred and flexible approach to ADP decision-making. The analysis notes some suggestions which were raised, including ensuring all aspects of mobility are considered, including a range of additional impacts reflecting clients' lived experiences before, during and after moving around.

[New guidance for responding to Human Rights Bill consultation](#)

The ALLIANCE has highlighted new guidance by the Human Rights Consortium Scotland to help organisations respond to the Scottish Government's consultation on proposals for a Human Rights Bill for Scotland. The guide outlines what the consultation questions are about and includes the key points the Consortium will be including in their response to the consultation.

[Regulators in Wales to launch joint equality, diversity and inclusion strategy \(Wales\)](#)

Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) and Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW) have published a joint statement of strategic intent regarding a joint equality, diversity and inclusion strategy. The strategy will be launched in November 2023.

Workforce

[Scottish Social Services Awards open for nominations](#)

Iriss has announced the Scottish Social Services Awards will take place on 23 November 2023 at the Glasgow Science Centre. The Awards are now open for nominations for 12 categories highlighting the breadth and depth of the work of the social services sector.



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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