



Adult
and
Health



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Covid-19 - General

[General Restriction Order by Scottish Inquiry](#)

The Scottish Covid-19 Inquiry has published a General Restriction Order. The Order applies to Protected Material, such as witness statements, documents and other evidence given, produced by or provided to the Inquiry during the course of its investigations and prior to publication of the material by the Inquiry. It restricts the categories of people to whom such material may be distributed and specifies the conditions on which it may be distributed.



Care Homes/Care at Home

[Care Inspectorate podcasts on Anne's Law project](#)

We have launched podcast episodes on the Visiting, Meaningful Connection and Anne's Law project. The Anne's Law project advisers have spoken with real-life people about real-life stories that will resonate with all of us, and are packed with insightful, thought-provoking ideas and tips to stay connected with your loved ones.

[Report from workshop on enabling research in care homes](#)

The Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (Iriss) has published a report from their workshop on enabling research in care homes which aimed to provide a space to share experiences and explore issues about care home research. Videos of the presentations by ENRICH Scotland and University of Stirling are available, and a note of the challenges and opportunities identified by group discussions on the day. Following the workshop, Iriss and ENRICH Scotland are working together to develop an evidence resource to support research in care homes. This will be in partnership with those working in care homes, residents, families, researchers and other key stakeholders.

[Older people living in care homes and changes over time \(England\)](#)

The Office for National Statistics has published an analysis of the characteristics of the population aged 65 years and over living in a care home in 2021 including health, disability, ethnicity, and main language, and changes since 2011. The main points include that there were 278,946 people aged 65 years and over living in a care home in England and Wales, accounting for 82.1% of all care home residents, and that the proportion of the usual resident population aged 65 years and over living in a care home decreased from 3.2% in 2011 to 2.5% in 2021. Reportedly, since 2011, the proportion of care home residents living in homes with nursing has increased, while the proportion of those living in homes without nursing has decreased.

Justice

[Revisiting the Domestic Abuse \(Protection\) \(Scotland\) Act 2021](#)

The Scottish Parliament information Centre (SPICe) has published a blog revisiting the Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act 2021, an important piece of as yet unimplemented legislation from the end of Session 5 of the Scottish Parliament. It also explores the potential need for wider-ranging reforms in this area and highlights an interesting law reform project by the Scottish Law Commission. The blog also provides an overview of the law and policy in relation to domestic abuse and civil law.



Mental Health

[Mental health equality and experiences of nursing staff](#)

The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) has published a survey on parity of esteem between mental and physical health as based on the experiences of UK nursing staff. The survey results reportedly show that despite some positive examples of services providing necessary support, physical health settings often fall short in meeting the mental health needs of patients. This is partly due to systemic challenges regarding unequal funding and resources for mental health, such as inadequate staffing levels and a lack of specialist services, which can affect nurses' abilities to access appropriate and timely support for their patients. Nursing staff suggest that challenges can be overcome through a focus on training and education, improving resources such as therapeutic staffing and support services, and promoting better collaboration and integration across services.

[Detentions for compulsory mental health care and treatment](#)

The Mental Welfare Commission (MWC) has published figures on the numbers of detentions of people in Scotland for compulsory mental health care and treatment as part of the 'Mental Health Act monitoring report: 2022-23'. The figures reportedly show a slight increase in the total number of Mental Health Act orders, and deprivation data shows that detentions are much more common in areas with higher social deprivation.

Older People

[Research evidence on physical activity and wellbeing in later life](#)

Age Scotland has published a 'Research Café' article highlighting the research evidence on physical activity and enjoying good wellbeing and health in later years. The article discusses the benefits of physical activity, cultivating an understanding what physical activity consists of, and keeping a focus on strength and balance for staying independent.

Other Health and Social Care

[Social care eligibility and waiting times](#)

The Scottish Government has published information on new clients meeting eligibility criteria for social care support, and the waiting times between first contact, completion of a community care assessment and delivery of a new personal care service. Amongst the key findings, the information reports that rates of community care assessments for new older clients (65 and over) in the 19 local authorities responding every year, peaked in 2016 at 11.6 per 1,000 population and decreased each year until 2021 (8.3 per 1,000 population), and in both 2022 and 2023, over a quarter of adults waited more than six weeks between first contact and completion of a community care assessment (Based on 15 local authorities).



[Awareness campaign for healthcare over winter](#)

The Scottish Government has launched an awareness campaign to ensure people know the best place to go for healthcare over the winter. Right Care Right Place aims to help people know which health setting is best for their medical concerns, and in turn to help alleviate pressures on the NHS and social care ahead of an expected increase in demand. The public is advised to use self-help guides on the NHS inform website, visit their local pharmacy for advice, telephone NHS 24 on 111, or contact their general practice surgery. Accident & Emergency departments should be used only for genuine emergencies.

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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