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Child Protection

[Joint inspection report on services for children and young people at risk of harm in North Lanarkshire](#)

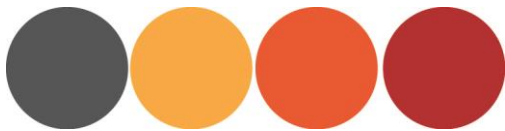
The Care Inspectorate has evaluated the impact of services for children and young people at risk of harm in North Lanarkshire as very good. The work of partners was making a positive difference to the lives of children and young people at risk of harm. Inspectors identified a few areas for improvement that partners were already aware of through their own self-evaluation and were taking steps to address through improvement plans.

[SCRA publishes progress report on 40 Calls to Action](#)

The Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) has published its third progress report since the publication of 40 Calls to Action to improve the Children's Hearings System by Our Hearings, Our Voice. The progress report includes updates on ways for children and young people to provide their views, timings of Hearings, the Hearing room improvement programme and new information materials.

[Research tests enablers and barriers to children's service improvement \(England\)](#)

Research to test key enablers and barriers to sustained improvement in Children's Services has been published by the Local Government



Association. The research explores whether seven key enablers of improvement identified in research from 2016 are still relevant, allowing participating councils and partners to reflect on their children's improvement journeys and how the context around children's services has changed significantly during the intervening period.

Disabilities

[Law Commission to review laws on social care for disabled children \(England\)](#)

The Law Commission is to carry out a review into the "patchwork" legislation that governs social care for disabled people in England. Recommended in the [Independent Review of Children's Social Care](#), the project will aim to simplify and strengthen the law on social care for disabled children, improve how the law fits with social care law more broadly, and review outdated language and definitions.

Looked After and Accommodated Children

[Fiona Duncan issues update on development of Promise Plan 24-30](#)

Fiona Duncan has issued an update on development of Plan 24-30 for The Promise. Following a period of feedback taking, the Independent Strategic Advisor on The Promise said the shift towards prevention and whole family approaches had not yet been delivered, highlighting funding challenges and silo working. She said conversations would continue on what is needed regarding content and structure for Plan 24-30, with a timeline to be published in November.

[Report on implementation of Compulsory Supervision Orders](#)

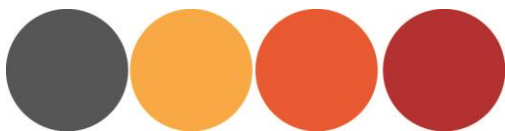
A report on the implementation of Compulsory Supervision Orders (CSOs) has been published by Children's Hearings Scotland. The report, Feedback Loop, covers CSO implementation over three years from 2020 to 2023 and highlights the need to improve data collection and sharing across Scotland's children's care system.

[CELCIS publishes response to Human Rights Bill consultation](#)

The Centre for excellence for Children's Care and Protection (CELCIS) has published its response to a Scottish Government consultation on a proposed Human Rights Bill for Scotland. Such a Bill would incorporate a range of economic, social and cultural rights into Scots law for the first time, as far as possible within the limits of devolved competence. The CELCIS response highlights a range of areas to be addressed, including the importance of systematic collection and monitoring of data, suggesting a need to "systematically prioritise the kinds of data that will allow for a fuller assessment of quality in practice that will drive better support for workforces to make a meaningful impact in improving the lives of children and families".

[BBC videos for teachers supporting care-experienced children](#)

Videos to help teachers support care-experienced children have been launched on BBC Teach. The training videos, developed with Adoption UK, explore what it means



to educate and support care-experienced young people through a trauma-informed approach.

[Glasgow 18-year-old first designer behind Made with Care brand](#)

An 18-year-old Who Cares? Scotland member has been unveiled as the first designer behind a new brand with the John Lewis Partnership. Michael Archibald, from Glasgow, has designed a tote bag which will go on sale across John Lewis and Waitrose stores under the Made with Care brand.

[Guidance to restrict courts' approach on unregistered DoL placements \(England\)](#)

Courts in England should no longer take steps to monitor the placement of children in unregistered settings, according to guidance issued by the President of the Family Division. Sir Andrew McFarlane suggests that 2019 guidance, which established that the court would need to be satisfied that steps are being taken to apply for the necessary registration, “places very considerable burdens on the court system”, adding that “it is not for the Court to become a regulatory body or the overseer of the regulatory process”. Sir Andrew stresses that the withdrawal of the 2019 guidance should not detract from the “usually great benefits” of a registered placement or the “very considerable safeguards” provided through the regulatory regime.

[Charity evaluates programme aimed at reducing 'repeat removals' \(England\)](#)

Targeted support for parents who have already had one or more children removed from their care could end the cycle of 'repeat removals' and significantly reduce looked after children figures, according to a report by the charity Pause. An independent evaluation of the charity's Pause programme found it resulted in a reduction of an average of 14 infants entering care per local authority each year. According to the charity, sustained investment in trauma-informed support services for birth parents not only benefits women, but also decreases the number of children entering the care system and delivers savings in public spending.

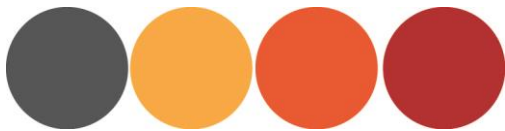
Other Health and Social Care

[Members reappointed to the Care Inspectorate Board](#)

Social Care Minister Maree Todd has announced the reappointments of Rona Fraser and Prof Paul Gray as members of the Care Inspectorate board. Rona Fraser's reappointment will be for four years and will run from 16 March 2024 to 15 March 2028, while Prof Gray's reappointment will be for two years, running from 16 March 2024 to 15 March 2026.

[Webinar on Health and Care \(Staffing\) \(Scotland\) Act 2019 for CYP sector](#)

The Care Inspectorate is delivering a webinar to support the children and young people's (CYP) sector to get ready for the enactment of the Health and Care (Staffing) (Scotland) Act 2019 next April. The webinar, taking place on 16 November from 14:00 - 15:00, will be relevant to anyone working in the sector and will provide an overview of the legislation in relation to children and young people.



[Scottish Covid-19 Inquiry provides details of upcoming hearings](#)

The Scottish Covid-19 Inquiry has provided details of the first and second week of hearings on the health and social care impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. The impact hearings will begin on Tuesday 24 October with the first two days consisting of opening submissions from core participants who have been granted leave to appear. The Inquiry will then continue with organisational statements from Scottish Covid Bereaved, Care Home Relatives Scotland, Alzheimer's Scotland, and other organisations.

[Iriss article explores social work's relationship with the Prevent duty](#)

The Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (Iriss) has published an article on the relationship between social work and the Prevent duty. The Prevent duty is part of the UK Government's counter-terrorism strategy, requiring specified authorities to help prevent the risk of people becoming or supporting terrorists. The article outlines the data trends in referrals to Prevent, the intersection of race and religion, and the implications for the social service workforce, raising issues around racism and Prevent, and within social work in Scotland. The article also highlights a report by the Child Rights International Network (CRIN) suggesting Prevent's surveillance interferes with children's right to privacy.

[Charity report highlights the financial impact of caring](#)

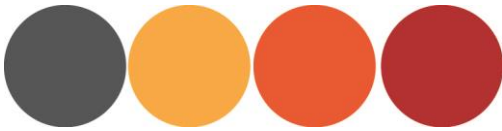
The financial struggles faced by many carers amid the cost of living crisis have been highlighted in a report published by Carers Scotland. State of Caring in Scotland – The financial impact of caring in 2023, the first of three reports, explores key findings from the annual State of Caring Scotland survey, completed by 1,771 unpaid carers between June and August. According to the report, more than a quarter of carers (28%) and 41% of carers on Carer's Allowance are struggling to make ends meet; 44% of carers on Carer's Allowance are cutting back on food and heating; one in six carers on Carer's Allowance are visiting foodbanks.

[Support for women leaving abusive relationships](#)

Women experiencing domestic abuse will be able to receive up to £1,000 from a new pilot fund to pay for the essentials they need when leaving a relationship with an abusive partner, the Scottish Government has announced. The £500,000 Fund to Leave pilot will be delivered by women's aid groups in the five local authority areas with the most women's homelessness applications due to domestic abuse: Glasgow; South Lanarkshire; Edinburgh; North Lanarkshire; Fife.

[Next Ofsted Chief Inspector appointed \(England\)](#)

Sir Martyn Oliver has been appointed as Ofsted's next His Majesty's chief inspector (HMCI) of education, children's services and skills, the UK Government has announced. Sir Martyn will start his five-year term on 1 January 2024 after Amanda Spielman's term ends on 31 December following seven years of service.



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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