


Adult and
Health[Justice](#)[Mental Health](#)[Older People](#)[Other Health & Social Care](#)**Justice**[New delivery plan for Vision for Justice in Scotland](#)

The Scottish Government has published the [Vision for Justice In Scotland: three year delivery plan](#) setting out a programme of reforms that are being taken forward to March 2026. The delivery plan sets out a number of actions and milestones to be achieved by 2025/2026, including the introduction of a new misogyny bill, a refresh of the trafficking and exploitation strategy, and ending the placement of under 18s in Young Offenders' Institutions. A [Measurement Framework](#) setting out how the Vision for Justice in Scotland will be delivered has also been published.



[Consultation on criminal justice measures from the Coronavirus Recovery and Reform \(Scotland\) Act 2022](#)

The Scottish Government has launched a consultation on proposals to make certain temporary justice measures which were introduced as part of the Coronavirus Recovery and Reform (Scotland) Act 2022 permanent. The Government is seeking views on specific temporary justice provisions from the Act that it seeks to make permanent, including allowing for the electronic signing and sending of documents in criminal cases, as well as views on proposals which support the modernisation of justice processes and procedures. The consultation will close on 29 January 2024.

Mental Health

[First delivery plan for the Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy published](#)

The first delivery plan for the Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy covers the period from 2023 to 2025 and sets out how the Scottish Government and COSLA will deliver on the outcomes and priorities set out in the Strategy. The delivery plan outlines a number of actions to be taken forward by the Scottish Government, including delivering a third year of the Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for Adults in 2023/24, providing funding to The Poverty Alliance and Mental Health Foundation to take forward work that will build capacity within grass-roots community organisations to better support the mental health needs of people experiencing poverty, and establishing a national strategic oversight group to support coherence across NHS boards in the planning and delivery of mental health services at national and regional levels. An [outcomes framework](#), a [workforce action plan](#), and an [easy read version](#) of the delivery plan have also been published.

Older People

[Charities call for improvements to plans for a new Pension Age Disability Payment](#)

15 charities have called on the Scottish Government to improve plans for the new Pension Age Disability Payment in order to include extra mobility and travel support for recipients. The charities calling for a mobility component to be included in the new social security benefit believe that this would bring about benefits such as helping safeguard older people's independence and participation in society, and relieving pressure on other public services. The coalition of charities have published a [paper](#) making the case for a mobility component to be included in a Pension Age Disability Payment.

Other Health and Social Care

[Scotland's British Sign Language National Plan 2023-2029 published](#)

The Health and Social Care Alliance (the ALLIANCE) has highlighted the publication of a new British Sign Language (BSL) National Plan. The Plan covers the period from 2023 to 2029 and sets out the Scottish Government's actions to tackle the barriers faced by BSL users. It includes commitments to build partnerships and



connections to ensure deaf and deafblind children and their families can access BSL support at an early stage, improving accessibility to arts and culture events, in addition to promoting BSL culture, working with Transport Scotland and transport operators on solutions to make public transport easier to use for BSL users, and improving accessibility of the Scottish Government website for BSL users.

[Call for views on the impact of the Self-directed Support Act](#)

The Health, Social Care and Sport Committee is undertaking an inquiry into how the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 has worked since it came into force. The Act aims to ensure that care and support is arranged, managed and delivered in a way that supports choice and control for individuals, and places a duty on local authorities to offer options to those who have been assessed as needing a community care service on how support is provided to them. The Committee is seeking views from people who have a view on or have experience of self-directed support. A [BSL version](#) of the inquiry has also been launched. The call for views will close on 5 January 2024.

[Speeches from the National Care Service National Forum 2023](#)

The Scottish Government has published the speeches given at the most recent National Care Service (NCS) National Forum. Donna Bell, Director of Social Care and National Care Service Development, provided an overview of the progress made over the past year, noting the shared accountability agreement with local government and the NHS. Ms Bell also highlighted progress made on the development of the Charter of Rights and Responsibilities, the ongoing work to embed Getting it Right For Everyone (GIRFE) across the NCS development, and progress made on the proposed National Social Work Agency.

[Iriss to host webinar focussing on rural social work](#)

The Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (Iriss) will host a webinar exploring the findings from Setting the Bar for Social Work in Scotland and what makes people stay in or leave the social work profession. The webinar will be held on 5 December and Iriss is encouraging anyone with an interest in rural practice to attend.

**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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