

16-22 February 2024



bulletin



# Adult and Health



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## Covid-19 - General

[Latest explainer video released by Scottish Covid-19 Inquiry](#)

The Scottish Covid-19 Inquiry has released the latest instalment in a series of short videos answering commonly asked questions about how the Inquiry works. The latest video focuses around the evidence sources the Inquiry uses to inform its investigations and reports, and explains that the oral evidence provided to the Inquiry through public hearings is only one of many sources of evidence used by the Inquiry.

[New report on accessing Long Covid services in Scotland](#)

The Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE) has published a report looking at why people in Scotland are disengaging with Long Covid services. Based on engagement through focus groups and a survey, the ALLIANCE has found that people living with Long Covid typically had negative experiences of accessing services. The report notes that just under 50% of survey respondents had disengaged from a Long Covid NHS service or never felt able to engage with a service in the first place.



## Alcohol and Drugs

### [National Naloxone Programme annual monitoring report published](#)

Public Health Scotland (PHS) has published information on the number of take-home naloxone (THN) kits issued by the National Naloxone Programme in Scotland. The report provides information on the number of THN kits issued from 2011/12 to 2022/23. It shows that in 2022/23 there was a 1% decrease in the number of THN kits issued in Scotland compared to the previous year with 28,689 kits issued in 2022/23 and 29,075 issued in 2021/22. It also notes that the annual number of kits supplied in 2021/22 and 2022/23 was substantially higher than in any year up to and including 2020/21, and highlight a number of initiatives that may have contributed to the increase and variations in supply in the last two years.

### [Blog highlights consultation on Charter of Rights for People Affected by Substance Use](#)

The ALLIANCE has published a blog on a draft outline of a Charter of Rights for People Affected by Substance Use and how people can contribute to the public consultation. The National Collaborative launched a consultation on the draft Charter of Rights and is gathering views and opinions to inform its continued development. The consultation will close on 3 June 2024 with the Charter of Rights due to be finalised and publicly launched at the end of 2024.

## Alzheimer's/Dementia

### [First delivery plan for Scotland's dementia strategy published](#)

Scottish Government and COSLA have published the first delivery plan for Scotland's dementia strategy. The national dementia strategy [Dementia in Scotland: Everyone's Story](#) was published in May 2023 and set out a 10-year vision for people living with dementia in Scotland. The delivery plan covers the period from 2024 to 2026 and sets out how Scottish Government and COSLA will work with delivery partners to begin to realise the vision set out in the strategy. The delivery plan outlines a number of actions/ commitments around the thematic priorities identified in the strategy, and sets out key deliverables to be achieved by 2026, including a public-facing campaign that challenges the stigma associated with dementia.

## Other Health and Social Care

### [Consultation analysis on proposed changes to SSSC register published](#)

The Scottish Government has published an analysis of responses to its consultation on the proposed changes to the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) register. The Scottish Government consultation, separate from the SSSC's wider consultation on 'A Register for the Future', gathered views on some of the proposed changes to the register, including reducing the number of parts, amending timescales for registering, and what information is included on the public register. As a result of the positive responses to both consultations the Scottish Government will proceed with the proposals to make three changes to the SSSC register: reducing the register to



four parts, reducing the timescales for applying to 3 months, and making changes to the Public Facing Register which will mean more information will be made available to the public.

#### [Update on Codes of Practice Review](#)

The SSSC has issued an update on its review of the Codes of Practice. Following two years of consultation and engagement with registrants, employers, learning providers, people experiencing care and other stakeholders, the SSSC Council will be asked to approve the revised Codes at their 26 February meeting. A number of changes have been made following the review, including updated wording, a more “positive and empowering” tone, clearer links to the Health and Social Care Standards, and greater focus on relationships, trauma and risk enablement.

#### [NHS in Scotland 2023 report published by the Auditor General for Scotland](#)

The report states that significant service transformation is required to ensure the financial sustainability of Scotland’s health service, and calls on the Scottish Government to develop a clear national strategy for health and social care to address the pressures on services. The report notes that the NHS is still struggling to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic, and that increasing demand is adding to capacity issues. It also notes that NHS staff are still under significant pressure and suggests that it is not clear whether the actions set out in the National Workforce Strategy for Health and Social Care will resolve this challenge.

#### [The ALLIANCE to host webinar with Professor Derek Feeley](#)

The ALLIANCE will host a webinar looking at the key challenges and opportunities facing health and social care in Scotland with Professor Derek Feeley. The webinar is part of the ALLIANCE annual conference and will take place on 17 April 2024.

#### [Consultation launched on Scottish Public Services Ombudsman strategic plan](#)

The Scottish Public Services Ombudsman (SPSO) has launched a consultation on its draft Strategic Plan 2024-2028, seeking views from individuals and organisations on all aspects of the plan.

**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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