




Adult and Health



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Feedback

The Care Inspectorate Policy Team produces weekly Adult & Health and Children & Young People bulletins and to continue to make improvements, we would welcome your feedback.

Thank you for taking the time to [complete this online survey](#). It should only take around 15 minutes to complete and your feedback will greatly assist us in the review process.

Alzheimer's/Dementia

[5,000 volunteers to take part in research for blood tests for dementia](#)

The BBC has highlighted research by the University College London and the University of Oxford which will recruit around 5,000 volunteers from over 50 NHS memory clinics to take part in a five-year project to study blood tests for Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. The research will include looking at a range of blood tests to help detect early signs of the disease.

[Books on understanding dementia](#)

Alzheimer Scotland has highlighted range of books for children that aim to increase overall understanding of dementia and how they can help support people living with the condition.



Disabilities

[New research looks at the additional living costs faced by those with a disability](#)

The Social Justice and Social Security Committee has published the findings from research looking at the extra living costs facing those living with a disability. The research, commissioned by the Committee and conducted by the University of Strathclyde and the Poverty Alliance, found that there is some evidence of additional spending on food, energy and health, but less spending in transport for disabled people. The researchers however note the limitations of currently available data on spending by disabled people and state that even though the additional costs in the spending data used for this research are persistent over time, they can't say whether these are statistically significant.

[Calls for more research into how disabled women are affected by violence](#)

Learning Disability Today (LDT) has highlighted calls by the World Health Organization (WHO) for more research on how disabled women are affected by violence. WHO has noted that there is gap in international data around violence against women with disabilities and has made several recommendations to address this evidence gap, including improving the inclusion of women with disabilities and the issue of disability within violence against women population-based surveys.

Older People

[Charity welcomes over £100,000 in new funding to support unpaid carers](#)

Age Scotland has welcomed funding from the National Lottery Community Fund which will allow the charity to provide support for carers of people living with dementia and others with unpaid caring responsibilities.

[Challenges facing the social care workforce and care of older people](#)

The National Care Forum, the Global Ageing Network, Scottish Care and UKRI have published a report on the challenges facing the social care workforce. The report is a result of the discussions from the 2023 Social Care International Workforce Summit held as part of the Global Ageing Conference. The Summit was attended by over 100 people representing 14 countries.

Other Health and Social Care

[Joint inspection of adult support and protection in Aberdeenshire](#)

The Care Inspectorate has published a joint inspection report of adult and support protection in Aberdeenshire which found clear strengths in ensuring adults at risk of harm are safe, protected and supported. However, inspectors also identified areas which could further improve. Inspectors found that strategic leaders had an effective approach to interagency referral discussions supported by clear guidance and templates. It ensured high quality, collaborative practice across key partners. There



were clear benefits for adults at risk of harm who had an interagency referral discussion.

[Statutory Guidance for Health and Care Staffing Act](#)

Statutory guidance to support relevant organisations in meeting the requirements of the Health and Care (Staffing) (Scotland) Act 2019 has been published by the Scottish Government. The Act, which came into force on 1 April 2024, provides a statutory basis for the provision of appropriate staffing in health and care services, enabling safe and high quality care and improved outcomes for service users. The guidance includes chapters covering the responsibilities of health boards, local authorities, Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS), and the Care Inspectorate.

[Guidance for adult social care workers eligible for increased rate of minimum pay](#)

The Scottish Government has updated information on adult social care workers minimum rate of pay to include information for those who are eligible for the increased rate of pay, which came into force in April 2024, but who have yet to receive this increase.

[Latest estimates on the number of unpaid carers living in Scotland](#)

The Scottish Government has released the latest up-to-date estimates of the number of unpaid carers living in Scotland. The figures are based on data from the Scottish Health Survey which estimates a total of around 696,000 (+/- 55,000) carers living in Scotland. Figures from the Scottish Health Survey also indicate that people are more likely to provide unpaid care in their later working years.

**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.

It should also be noted that the Care Inspectorate has no liability in respect of the content of external websites which may be signposted on this site.