




# Adult and Health



## Covid-19 - General

### [Survey findings on winter 2023 vaccination programme](#)

Public Health Scotland (PHS) has published the findings of its national survey on the winter 2023 flu and Covid-19 vaccination programme. The survey gathered feedback from health and frontline social care staff who were eligible for one or more of these vaccines, and included questions on attitudes towards the vaccines, experiences of the programme, and suggestions for future service improvements. The report states that the majority of survey respondents received flu and/or Covid-19 vaccines in winter 2023 and that they were confident in the safety, importance and effectiveness of both vaccines. However, it also notes that concerns around side effects acted as a barrier to Covid-19 vaccination and that a larger proportion of respondents had doubts about the importance, safety and effectiveness of the Covid-19 vaccine compared to the flu vaccine

[Covid-19 - General](#)

[Alzheimer's/Dementia](#)

[Disabilities](#)

[Mental Health](#)

[Older People](#)

[Other Health & Social Care](#)



## Alzheimer's/Dementia

### [Volunteers wanted for dementia helpline](#)

Alzheimer Scotland is looking for volunteers who can commit to at least one regular shift per week on its 24 hour helpline. No prior experience is necessary and full training will be provided. An information session will be held on 13 June via teams for those interested in finding out more about the role before committing.

## Disabilities

### [SPICe briefing on the Disability Commissioner \(Scotland\) Bill](#)

The Disability Commissioner (Scotland) Bill aims to establish an independent Disability Commissioner for Scotland whose primary purpose will be to promote and safeguard the rights of disabled people. The Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe) briefing outlines the aims of the Bill and what the general functions of the commissioner would be, sets out the wider discussions around commissions and commissioners, provides an overview of the commissioner landscape in Scotland and also outlines current issues.

## Mental Health

### [First delivery plan for the Mental Health and Capacity Reform Programme published](#)

The first delivery plan for the Mental Health and Capacity Reform Programme has been published. It covers the period from October 2023 to April 2025 and outlines the work that is currently underway or will be immediately progressed as the Programme is established. The Programme looks to update and modernise legislation, in line with developing thinking and international standards on human right and will focus on three strategic aims: law reform, improving support, and strengthening accountability. An [easy read version](#) of the delivery plan is also available.

## Other Health and Social Care

### [Revised Self-directed Support Framework of Standards launched](#)

The Scottish Government has published an updated Self-directed Support Framework of Standards. The Framework consists of a set of standards to support the implementation of Self-directed Support in Scotland and is aimed at all people and organisations, including children, young people, supported people, families, carers, including young carers and relevant organisations including Local Authorities and Health and Social Care Partnerships, NHS organisations or Integration Joint Board staff. The key revisions made to the Framework include:

- Clarifying the meaning and simplifying the language of each standard including the practice statement and core components
- Reducing the number of core components
- Developing a new explanatory 'how to' section for each core component
- Adding a glossary of terms used



### [Care Inspectorate report on engagement visits to non-residential services](#)

Building on previous visits to engage with people living in care homes, family carers, and staff, the Meaningful Connection team visited non-residential care services (day centres) during February and March this year with the purpose of gathering views and experiences around meaningful connection, what works well, and what challenges and barriers may exist. The report concludes that day centres played a vital role in reducing loneliness and isolation, helping to meet a clear need in the areas they covered, and that attending these services supported people to remain active and connected to their communities.

### [ALLIANCE launches Lived Experience Knowledge Hub](#)

The Health and Social Care Alliance (the ALLIANCE) has launched a new resource library to support engagement with people with lived experience. The Lived Experience Knowledge Hub includes toolkits and other resources, and has been created to share ideas and learning on best practice engagement. The hub is split into five sections: guidance, policies, templates, research and reports, and external resources.

### [Carers' experience survey](#)

The ALLIANCE has highlighted work currently being undertaken by Shared Care Scotland to gather views from unpaid carers on accessing and using short break and respite services in Scotland. Shared Care Scotland is calling on unpaid carers to share their experiences of these services through an online survey. The survey will close on 31 July 2024.

### [NHS Scotland Event 2024](#)

The NHS Scotland Event 2024 will be taking place at the SEC in Glasgow on Monday 10 June. The event will look at how health and care services are working to integrate the government's core priorities into the services they offer, and will include examples which focus on Public Health, prevention and innovation. These include:

- Tackling poverty to improve the life expectancy of people across Scotland;
- Building in ways to achieve our country's net zero target, which is fundamental to the health and wellbeing of everyone in Scotland; and
- Ensuring that the founding purpose of our NHS, to provide free healthcare at the point of need, is never lost.



## 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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