



[Covid-19 - General](#)

[Child Protection](#)

[Justice](#)

[Looked After and
Accommodated Children](#)

[Other Health and Social
Care](#)

[Other](#)

Covid-19 - General

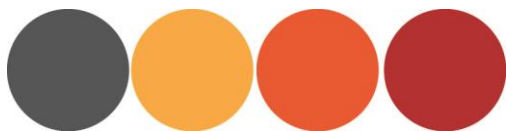
[First report by UK Inquiry expected in July](#)

The UK Covid-19 Inquiry is due to publish its first report and recommendations following its Module 1 investigation on 18 July 2024. The Chair of the Inquiry will also present her recommendations on a live streamed statement on the Inquiry's YouTube channel. Module 1 of the Inquiry looked at the UK's resilience and preparedness for the pandemic.

Child Protection

[Updated guidance for child protection committees undertaking learning reviews](#)

The Scottish Government has published updated national guidance for child protection committees undertaking learning reviews. The guidance, first published in 2021, has been updated to reflect necessary updates and developments. The updates made to the guidance include references to Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) processes, additional wording to ensure any learning gathered from cases which do not meet the criteria for a Learning Review is still shared, and an updated National Child Death Review and Learning Hub Process Map.



Justice

[Vision and priorities for justice for children and young people 2024-26](#)

The Scottish Government has published an updated vision and priorities for justice for children and young people. Priorities include upholding the rights of children and young people, ensuring children and young people are supported to actively participate and engage in decisions that affect them, supporting and upholding the rights of victims, with specific attention to child victims and their families, continued delivery of the Whole System Approach (WSA) which supports the use of diversion from prosecution, and supporting children and families at an early stage to improve their life chances. An action plan to accompany this vision is due to be published in September 2024, and will break down these priorities into actions to be delivered between September 2024 and June 2026.

Looked After and Accommodated Children

[Care Leaver Payment consultation analysis report](#)

An independent analysis of consultation responses to the Scottish Government's proposals to establish a Care Leaver Payment for young people leaving care in Scotland has been published. The report states that 48% of respondents believed that the payment can fulfil its intended purpose of helping reduce some of the financial barriers that young people face when moving on from care into adulthood and more independent living, but notes that respondents also stated that the payment would only fulfil its purpose if a range of supports and other financial assistance were also made available.

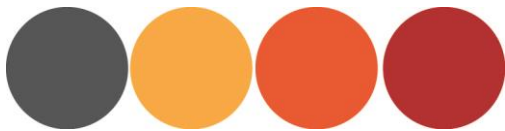
[Who Cares? Scotland paper on housing support for care experienced people](#)

Who Cares? Scotland has published a research paper focused on housing support for care experienced people. The organisation has highlighted that this is one of the most commonly raised issues for care experienced adults and highlights findings from a recent survey which show a broadly negative picture of housing and living conditions for care experienced adults in Scotland. The paper is part of Who Cares? Scotland's Lifelong Rights Campaign to show that care experienced people currently don't have the same life outcomes as non-care experienced people.

Other Health and Social Care

[National Occupational Standards \(NOS\) Review 2024/25](#)

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) are working with partners across the UK to review the National Occupational Standards (NOS) for Health and Social Care and Childcare learning and development. The review will assess evidence on the skills and knowledge requirements for different roles, and identify what needs to change in the NOS. A formal consultation is expected in summer/autumn 2025 before the updated NOS are finalised in December 2025. The SSSC have set up a



Stakeholder Advisory Group to provide guidance on the project and plans to host an engagement event in October 2024.

[Nominations open for Scottish Children's Health Awards 2024](#)

Children's Health Scotland is inviting nominations for the annual Scottish Children's Health Awards. Nominations are open until Friday 12 July 2024 across the following categories:

- Children's Choice Award
- Health and Wellbeing Award
- Healthcare Rights Award
- Health-Related Play Award
- Improving Life Experiences Award
- Young Achiever Award

Other

[New research on youth engagement in the Scottish social housing sector](#)

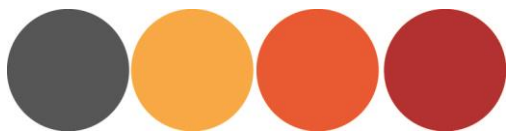
The Scottish Government has commissioned a study to gain a better understanding of youth engagement in the Scottish social housing sector. The findings from the study have highlighted a number of barriers to youth engagement including, housing organisations not being fully aware of the number of young tenants living in their properties, a lack of understanding of the priorities of young tenants, and insufficient participation options that are designed specifically for young tenants. The study sets out a number of recommendations for housing organisations including developing a database of young tenants that live within their properties, and partnering with the wider community to support and enhance youth engagement.

[Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry publishes latest case study findings](#)

The Inquiry has published findings relating to the provision of residential care for children at Gordonstoun, Moray and its associated junior school, Aberlour. Lady Smith, Chair of the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry, has concluded that children who boarded at both establishments were exposed to risks of sexual, physical, and emotional abuse and for many, those risks materialised.

[Chair and board members appointed to Scottish Children's Reporter Administration](#)

The Minister for Children, Young People and the Promise has announced the appointment of Cathie Cowan as Chair of the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA). Lynne Clow and Steve Renwick have been appointed as Board Members.



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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