



[Child Protection](#)

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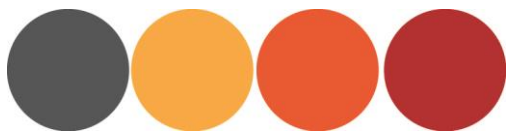
[Mental Health](#)

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Child Protection

[CELCIS report on child sexual abuse and exploitation](#)

CELCIS has published a report on the prevalence of child sexual abuse and child sexual exploitation in Scotland, including an overview of how to prevent, recognise and respond to the risk and harm to children and young people. CELCIS carried out the research for the Scottish Government as part of efforts to inform policy and support national and local multi-agency partners and services involved in response. The report also highlights new emerging digital risks, the need to improve data collection and the importance of leadership in supporting the development of trauma-informed services.



Justice

[Children's Commissioner investigates use of police force against under 18s](#)

The Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland has launched an investigation into the police's use of force against children, after data from the Scottish Police Authority suggested children are more than twice as likely to experience use of force than adults. In its investigation, the Children's Commissioner will involve partners through the National Preventive Mechanism to make recommendations that better secure rights protections for children in conflict with the law. Last year, the United Nations advised the Scottish and UK governments that some forms of police use of force against children should be banned.

[Social care system "failing" children deprived of liberty \(England\)](#)

England's Children's Commissioner has published a report detailing the challenges facing children with complex needs who are deprived of their liberty by the courts. The report suggests a lack of stable support for children, who have limited say in decision making and are often living in restrictive living conditions. The report also demonstrates the lack of clear guidance in making restrictive decisions, with children placed in locations including a caravan, a hospital and an Airbnb.

Looked After and Accommodated Children

[Adoption Week Scotland: 23 November – 1 December](#)

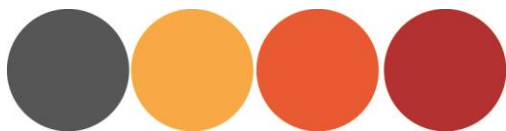
Adoption Week Scotland will take place next week from Saturday 23 November to Sunday 1 December. The programme includes free family events, meet-ups and online information sessions and discussions for adoptive families, adopted people and practitioners who work with them.

[Staying Connected service to support sibling relationships](#)

Barnardo's Scotland is working with Aberdeenshire Council to launch the Staying Connected service, which will give siblings in the care system the chance to spend time together and share experiences. The mobile service will see community venues transformed to provide a neutral space for children to meet with their siblings. The initiative will also support the relationships between carers.

[Report on modernising adoption in Scotland](#)

CELCIS has published a review of adoption services in Scotland, the UK and internationally, as part of its work to understand how adoption policy and practice in Scotland can better meet the needs of children, young people and families. 'Towards modernising adoption in Scotland: A focused mapping review' is a review of selected literature from the last five years and recent changes and approaches that have developed in services and practice. Key learning from the review covers topics such as addressing delays in the process, developing the legal system and improving practice around keeping in touch with birth families.



[Proposals announced to tackle exploitative children's social care providers \(England\)](#)

The UK Government has confirmed plans to strengthen Ofsted's powers to investigate and fine children's home providers in England if they are found to be exploitative. New measures will be aimed at preventing companies that run children's homes from making excessive profits, with large providers required to disclose their finances and a legal limit on how much they can make should they not limit their profits voluntarily.

[Growing up in Kinship Care – Wednesday 4 December](#)

The Scottish Centre for Administrative Data Research and CELCIS will hold a webinar on growing up in kinship care on 4 December. Those attending will hear about the findings from the Growing up in Kinship Care study and presentations will be given on the challenges faced by kinship families in Scotland.

Mental Health

[New eating disorder guidance published](#)

The Scottish Government has announced the publication of a national specification to support people affected by an eating disorder. The guidance will help both the NHS and local services to deliver person-centred, safe and effective care and aims to ensure everyone has access to a high-quality standard of care regardless of what stage they are in their recovery. The National Eating Disorder Specification will sit alongside and complement the [Core Mental Health Standards](#), published last year.

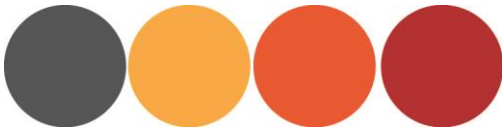
Other

[Reviewing Officers Handbook published](#)

Social Work Scotland has published a Reviewing Officers Handbook for 2024-2030. The Handbook includes a pledge to children and young people, for reviewing officers to advocate for their rights and ensure their voice is heard in their work, which includes shaping policy and practice, and improving the quality and experience of social services.

[Using and designing surveys with children – Monday 2 December](#)

An event hosted by the University of Edinburgh and Centre for Research on Families and Relationships will explore using and designing surveys with, for and on children and young people. The event will look at the design of surveys, as well as the ethical challenges of conducting this work. It takes place on 2 December in Edinburgh.



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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