 Public Protection Bulletin 

28th August 2020

Dear colleague,

As we move from our Covid-19 response to the recovery phase, it is clear that some new and adapted work practices are going to be with us for some considerable time. For example, we envisage our Adult Support and Child Protection Committees meeting via a video conferencing platform, for at least the next 6 months.

I’m aware that people have found our weekly Covid-19 specific and monthly Public Protection bulletins an invaluable information source. In particular, people appreciate the facility to view headline updates with the opportunity to drill down for more detail if required.

As the medium-term planning and operational horizon becomes clearer, we feel it would be appropriate to combine both bulletins and issue the new format on a fortnightly basis. We will of course keep this under review through our Public Protection Committees and subgroups.

As always, this needs to be a two-way process so please continue to share any interesting news or developments from your particular agency or organisation.

We hope that you find something of interest to you in the articles below.

Please stay safe and healthy,

Best wishes,

Colin

Colin Anderson,

Independent Chair

Adult Support & Protection Committee/Child Protection Committee

[Vulnerable children and adults monitoring](https://public.tableau.com/profile/sg.eas.learninganalysis#!/vizhome/VulnerableChildrenandAdultProtection/Introduction)

In response to COVID-19, the Scottish Government has been collecting information from local authorities and Police Scotland.

['Heids Together'](https://www.youthlinkscotland.org/news/august-2020/youth-groups-put-heids-together-to-create-online-wellbeing-resource/)

YouthLink Scotland have launched a collection of free, online resources for youth workers to help reduce the impact of Covid-19 on the health and wellbeing of young people in Scotland.

[21st century issues - social media](https://www.understandingglasgow.com/profiles/childrens_report_cards/21st_century_issues)

The Glasgow Centre for Population Health have released a report where they describe the positive and negative issues which arise from social media use among children and young people (aged 9+ years) in modern day middle- and high-income countries that have the potential to impact on the health and wellbeing of children and young people.

[Improving awareness of domestic abuse](https://www.gov.scot/news/improving-awareness-of-domestic-abuse/)

A new online resource is being made available to help support people experiencing, or at risk of, domestic abuse. For professionals in the housing, social work, health, education and other sectors with an interest in the new domestic abuse legislation, the resource aims to improve understanding of coercive controlling behaviours, and where to direct people for further assistance.

[How has Covid-19 impacted on care and support at home in Scotland?](https://yourviews.parliament.scot/health/covid19-social-care/)

The Health and Sport Committee is looking into social care for adults over 18 years. They are looking for views from people who provide, or receive, care and support at home:

* individuals receiving care at home
* family members and unpaid carers
* staff, managers or owners of a care at home services, or personal assistants providing care.

[Getting Care Right for All Children: Implementing the UN Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children](https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/alternative-care)

Taking the UN Guidelines as a framework, this free online course from CELCIS aims to help you gain insight into how the unnecessary placement of a child in alternative care can be prevented; how alternative care can constitute a suitable, positive experience for a child when it is necessary; and how children and young people who are leaving care can best be supported.

[The importance of good data for public sector improvement](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7eWjIU5NuQ8&feature=youtu.be)

A briefing from the Improvement Service on how good quality data can drive service and practice improvement (requires YouTube access).

[The highs and lows of kinship care](https://www.celcis.org/knowledge-bank/search-bank/highs-and-lows-kinship-care-supplementary-analysis-comprehensive-survey-kinship-carers-scotland-2019/)

In 2019, the Family Rights Group (FRG) surveyed 845 kinship carers caring for 1,252 kinship children across the UK to help develop an in-depth understanding of the current experiences of carers and the children they are raising and produced an initial report, ‘The highs and lows of kinship care: analysis of a comprehensive survey of kinship carers 2019'. Following on from this CELCIS has undertaken supplementary analysis of the Scottish responses so as to provide a snapshot of Scotland’s kinship carers as well as an overview of the legal context of kinship care in Scotland.

[Job Start Payment](https://www.mygov.scot/job-start-payment/)

Job Start Payment is a new benefit to help young people with the costs of starting a new job. Young people can apply if they been out of work and are on certain benefits. They can be awarded a one-off payment of £250, or the higher rate of £400 if they are the main carer of any children.

[Beyond a Safe and Secure Transition](https://www.cas.org.uk/publications/beyond-safe-and-secure-transition-long-term-vision-disability-assistance-scotland)

The Scottish Campaign on Rights to Social Security, has launched its long-term vision for disability assistance in Scotland.

[The Care Inspectorate’s role, purpose and learning during the COVID-19 pandemic](https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/5783/CI%20Role%20Purpose%20Learning%20during%20COVID-19.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

The Care Inspectorate has today published **a report on its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.** The report is part of the Care Inspectorate’s submission to the Scottish Parliament’s Health and Sport Committee. The committee is looking into the work of the Care Inspectorate in relation to adult social care as well as its role during, and response to, the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Defining What a ‘Carer’ Is and the Role They Play in In-Patient Mental Healthcare](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/47866/defining_what_a_carer_is_and_the_role_they_play_in_inpatient_mental_healthcare_a_focus_group_study_with_patients_carers_and_clinicians.pdf)

This qualitative study explored patients’, carers’ and clinicians’ perspectives on the role of carers in mental healthcare, particularly with regards to in-patient settings.

[Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic and Initial Period of Lockdown on the Mental Health and Wellbeing of Adults in the UK](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/47865/impact_of_the_covid19_pandemic_and_initial_period_of_lockdown_on_the_mental_health_and_wellbeing_of_adults_in_the_uk.pdf)

This study investigated whether mental health, well-being and quality of life outcomes in UK adults are associated with experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, being in a group vulnerable to COVID-19 (the question read ‘I am classified as being in a vulnerable group in terms of COVID-19, being categorised as an ‘essential worker’, experiencing COVID-19-related isolation and local community interactions.

[Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) (Scotland) Bill published](https://www.celcis.org/news/news-pages/redress-survivors-historical-child-abuse-care-scotland-bill-published/)

The Bill aims to provide tangible recognition of the harm caused to those who were abused as children in relevant residential care settings in Scotland before 1 December 2004. The redress scheme will also offer survivors access to some non-financial elements of redress such as acknowledgement, apology and therapeutic support.

[Letter to all childcare providers and childminders - quarantine rules following international travel](https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/coronavirus/Provider_notice_-_19_Aug.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

The Scottish Government has issued **a letter to all childcare providers and childminders** following a number of cases of children being in school after recently returning from countries not exempt from self-isolation (“quarantine”) rules. The letter includes a link to the most current guidance and information on the process for people entering the UK.

[COVID-19 and Social Work: Country Reports](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/47841/covid-19-and-social-work-country-reports-final.pdf)

This compilation of reports aims to chart national responses to the COVID-19 pandemic with a particular focus on the role of social work and social welfare.

[Delays in Trials: the Implications for Victim-Survivors of Rape and Serious Sexual Assault](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/47838/delays-in-trials-sccjr-briefing-paper_july-2020.pdf)

This paper outlines the implications of these delays for those reporting rape and serious sexual offences. It draws on the research literature on the impacts that delays to the operation of the criminal justice system have on those who have experienced rape and sexual assault, and from testimonies from victim-survivors about the effects of delays, gained from their participation in two recent research studies on their ‘end to end’ experiences of the Scottish criminal justice process.

[A Review of What Works in Multi-Agency Decision Making and the Implications for Child Victims of Trafficking](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/47837/iasc_and_ecpat_-_rapid_evidence_assessment_august_2020.pdf)

Since the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) was introduced in 2009, there have been multiple attempts to pilot and propose alternative decision making models for both children and adults. A rapid evidence assessment was carried out for each model to examine existing literature on what works in addition to a small number of consultative discussions with key stakeholders to understand how the models operate in practice. In reviewing these four models, seven key themes were explored in detail to identify learning and good practice. These were: the function of the decision making models; membership; the inclusion of survivor voices; training; funding and resourcing; information sharing and governance.

[COVID-19 and Domestic Violence: an Indirect Path to Social and Economic Crisis](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/47788/sharma-borah2020_article_covid-19anddomesticviolenceani.pdf)

This article relies on various statistics and insights regarding domestic violence since the detection of COVID-19. Based on the available statistics regarding domestic violence prevalence during previous times of uncertainty, the number and nature of domestic violence incidents around the globe, and existing literature, the authors argue that clear links exist between COVID-19 and domestic violence, which also impacts on the economic and social crisis.

[Supercharged: a Human Catastrophe](http://gda.scot/about-us/publications/2219/supercharged-a-human-catastrophe)

Glasgow Disability Alliance has launched their report 'Supercharged: A Human Catastrophe - Inequalities Participation and Human Rights, before during and beyond COVID19.'

[together, we help](https://www.togetherwehelp.scot/about)

As part of a national research project, ‘together, we help’ are collating stories of local action being taken across Scotland. This research will help shine a light on how local communities play a critical role in our future and how we can build forward better.

[UK Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) guidance for the remobilisation of health and care services](https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/coronavirus/CNO_letter_on_publication_of_UK_wide_IPC_Guidance_-_1.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

The Scottish Government’s Chief Nursing Officer has **issued a letter** following the publication of UK-wide IPC guidance for the remobilisation of health and care services on Friday 21 August 2020. The guidance has been issued jointly by Department of Health and Social Care, Health Protection Scotland, Public Health Scotland, Public Health Wales, Public Health Agency Northern Ireland, Public Health England and NHS England.

[Children (Scotland) Bill](https://beta.parliament.scot/bills/children-scotland-bill)

The Children (Scotland) Bill has been passed by the Scottish Parliament. The Bill changes the law to improve the court process in contact and residence cases. Contact and residence cases decide the living and visiting arrangements for children. It also covers contact and residence cases of children when parents are no longer together. It also covers changes to aspects of the Children’s Hearings system.

[COVID-19: residential childcare](https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-residential-childcare/)

**The Scottish Government** has updated the residential child care guidance, to include advice regarding Test & Protect.

[Food Power for Generation Covid](https://www.unicef.org.uk/press-releases/unicef-launches-first-ever-domestic-emergency-response-programme-to-provide-food-support-for-vulnerable-children-across-the-uk/)

Unicef UK has launched its first domestic emergency response programme - ‘Food Power for Generation Covid’ - with the food and farming charity Sustain, to provide food support for vulnerable children and their families across the UK by providing grants to community food projects until February 2021.

[Suicide: A public health risk - partnership working and best practice](https://www.childprotectionprofessionals.org.uk/Event/suicide-a-public-health-issue-the-way-forward)

The Association of Child Protection Professionals is hosting a half-day conference about young people and suicide on Wednesday 2nd September 2020 from 10am-2pm (member rate: £50, non-member rate: £70).

[Beyond the Headlines: Understanding data](https://www.celcis.org/files/1215/9774/8925/BTH_Data_August_2020.pdf)

This is the third in a series of briefings from CELCIS that has been providing further information and analysis on commonly reported statistics relating to children and young people in need of care and protection in Scotland.

[Living Life](https://www.nhs24.scot/our-services/living-life/)

The Living Life service offers support to people in Scotland through guided self-help and cognitive behavioural therapy. It is a free phone service offering therapy for anyone in Scotland over 16 years of age with:

* low mood
* mild to moderate depression
* anxiety

0800 328 9655 (Monday to Friday: 1pm - 9pm).