 Public Protection Bulletin 

24th September 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

[Letter to care home staff regarding testing staff for COVID-19](https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/coronavirus/JFCabinet_Secretary_-_Letter_to_Care_Homes-_4_Sept_2020_004.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport, Jeane Freeman, issued **a letter to care home staff** regarding testing staff for Covid-19. The letter provides an update on issues experienced over the previous weeks in terms of demand on testing across UK, which is having a significant impact on turnaround times for Covid test results.

[Never the Same Again? Addressing Poverty After the Pandemic](https://www.povertyalliance.org/poverty-alliance-annual-conference-2020/)

**Poverty Alliance Annual Conference - 9 October 2020 (online)**

[New guidance on repurposing medicines during COVID-19](https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/coronavirus/Guidance_for_Repurposing_Medicines_V2.0.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

The Care Inspectorate and NHS Scotland have produced **updated guidance** for care homes and hospices on repurposing prescription medicines during the pandemic.

[Lessons from holding virtual family group conferences under Covid](https://www.communitycare.co.uk/2020/09/16/lessons-holding-virtual-family-group-conferences-covid/)

An article from Community Care on how one local authority has developed a model for virtual family group conferences.

[Views of Children’s Services in Glasgow – Pre and Post Covid](http://www.gcvs.org.uk/blog/views-of-childrens-services-in-glasgow-pre-and-post-covid/)

GCVS Everyone’s Children have published two reports on the consultation with children, young people, their families and third sector staff.

[Alcohol-Related Disparities Among Women: Evidence and Potential Explanations](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48044/arcr-40-2-1.pdf)

An article that briefly reviews what is known about alcohol-related disparities among women and discusses mechanisms that could give rise to inequities in alcohol outcomes.

[Beyond the Pandemic: Strategic Priorities for Responding to Childhood Trauma](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48052/coronavirus-cyp-and-trauma-uktc-policy-briefing-sept-2020.pdf)

The UK Trauma Council has developed four recommendations that should be prioritised by all UK Governments to address childhood trauma in both the short and long term. These recommendations present a framework for action, to be taken forward in different ways across the UK.

[COVID-19: Urgency for Distancing from Domestic Violence](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48046/covid-19-urgency-for-distancing-from-domestic-violence.pdf)

A paper that describes worldwide preventive measures and action plans to combat violence against women and children during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[The Mental Health Effects of the First Two Months of Lockdown and Social Distancing During the COVID-19 Pandemic in the UK](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48038/170033042x.pdf)

An analysis of the individual level effects of the pandemic on mental health using longitudinal data from the Understanding Society study.

[Refreshed Coronavirus (COVID-19) Supplementary National Violence Against Women (VAWG) Guidance](https://www.cosla.gov.uk/news/september-2020/refreshed-coronavirus-covid-19-supplementary-national-violence-against-women-vawg-guidance-published)

A refreshed version of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Supplementary National Violence Against Women (VAWG) Guidance for Local Authorities and their strategic partners, has been published today. This version updates the original Supplementary Guidance published by COSLA and Scottish Government in May 2020 and reflects Scotland’s current phase of COVID-19 recovery and renewal. The updated guidance has been developed in partnership with Public Health Scotland and the Improvement Service.

[COVID19: Occupational Risk Assessment](https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2020/07/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-individual-risk-assessment-for-the-workplace/documents/risk-assessment-tools-and-guidance/occupational-risk-assessment-tool-and-guidance/occupational-risk-assessment-tool-and-guidance/govscot%3Adocument/Occupational%2BRisk%2BAssessment%2BGuidance%2Band%2BTool%2B%2528Interactive%2529%2B04%2BSeptember.pdf?forceDownload=true&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

The Scottish Government has provided **additional guidance** on the risk and vulnerability assessment process in relation to the specific risk of COVID-19 to individuals in the workplace. In particular, this is relevant to those staff members who are returning to work after shielding, those who are returning to normal duties after COVID-19 related restrictions, those who are returning to the workplace after working from home or anyone who has a concern about a personal vulnerability to COVID-19.

[Factsheet: Programme for Government 2020-2021 – Employment](https://inclusionscotland.org/factsheet-on-employment-and-disabled-people-in-the-scottish-governments-2020-2021-programme-for-government/)

This factsheet from Inclusion Scotland covers what the Scottish Government’s 2020-2021 Programme for Government sets out to do on Employment and how this relates to disabled people.

[Encompass Resources](https://www.encompassnetwork.info/resources.html)

The Encompass Network is a Scottish network of agencies working with people affected by involvement in commercial sexual exploitation.

[COVID-19: domestic abuse and other forms of violence against women and girls](https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-domestic-abuse-forms-violence-against-women-girls-during-phases-1-2-3-scotlands-route-map-22-11-august-2020/)

The Scottish Government has published a report with qualitative evidence on the impact of COVID-19 restrictions on people experiencing domestic abuse and other forms of violence against women and girls.

[Taking a human rights approach to recovery from COVID-19](https://www.publichealthscotland.scot/news/2020/september/taking-a-human-rights-approach-to-recovery-from-covid-19/)

Public Health Scotland has published a report setting out how we can understand and minimise any unintended impacts on health, particularly for the people who are most marginalised and excluded.

[COVID-19: impact on wellbeing](http://www.gov.scot/publications/impact-covid-19-wellbeing-scotland/)

This report contains the findings from a telephone survey commissioned by Scottish Government to better understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on people in Scotland.

[Lockdown, Lifelines and the Long-Haul Ahead](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48064/the-impact-of-covid-19-on-food-banks-report.pdf)

A report on the impact of Covid-19 on food banks in the Trussell Trust network.

[Worlds of Influence](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48075/report-card-16-worlds-of-influence-child-wellbeing.pdf)

The findings from a Unicef study which aimed to understand what shapes child wellbeing in rich countries.