 Public Protection Bulletin 

11th December 2020

Dear colleague,

It is now clear that our support and protection services are going to feel the COVID-19 impact for the foreseeable future. As we get used to a five-tier system of lockdown we remain satisfied that our services continue to be flexible and responsive to emerging needs.

We already have evidence from our data collection systems concerning the impact of lockdown and social isolation on mental health and wellbeing and we are closely monitoring any impact on our adult and child support and protection services.

Our Adult Support and Protection and Child Protection Committees and subgroups have returned to the previous meeting schedules albeit on video conferencing platforms and I won’t even hazard a guess at how long this new way of working might last.

People tell us that these bulletins continue to be a valuable source of information and as various studies emerge on how Covid-19 has impacted on the needs of vulnerable people and how services have been developed in response, we will continue to seek out the latest news and provide electronic links to more detailed articles.

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. We also hope that you have an opportunity to rest and relax over the festive period.

Please stay safe and healthy,

Best wishes,

Colin

Colin Anderson,

Independent Chair

Adult Support & Protection Committee/Child Protection Committee

[Overnight Welcome Centre](https://glasgowcity.hscp.scot/news/glasgows-winter-night-shelter-now-open-change-name-and-new-location)

Glasgow's Winter Night Shelter is now open with a change of name and a new location.

[Suicide Attempts and Completions among Mothers Whose Children Were Taken into Care by Child Protection Services](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0706743717741058)

The objective of this study is to examine suicide attempts and completions among mothers who had a child taken into care by child protection services (CPS). These mothers were compared with their biological sisters who did not have a child taken into care and with mothers who received services from CPS but did not have a child taken into care.

[The Financial Impact of COVID-19 on Disabled People and Their Carers](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48733/disabled_people_and_legacy_benefits_dec_2020.pdf)

A briefing paper from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

[COVID-19: Children, young people and families Evidence Summary](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48714/covid-19-children-young-people-families-october-2020-evidence-summary.pdf)

A summary of Scottish and UK evidence on the impact of COVID-19 on the wellbeing of children and young people.

[Changes in children and young people’s mental health symptoms from March to October 2020](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48708/report_06_-changes-in-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-symptoms-from-march-to-october-1.pdf)

A report which focusses on parent/carer reports of their children’s mental health symptoms at monthly intervals from March to October 2020.

[Mental Welfare Commission Annual Report 2019-20](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48707/mentalwelfarecommission_annualreport_2019-20.pdf)

The annual report of the statutory regulator of mental health and capacity law in Scotland.

[Research Evidence on Different Strengths-Based Approaches Within Adult Social Work](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48721/web_report_-_adult_social_work.pdf)

This paper provides a summary of research evidence on the effectiveness and the implementation of different strengths-based approaches within adult social work in the UK.

[Attitudes to Physical Healthcare in Severe Mental Illness](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48690/butler2020_article_attitudestophysicalhealthcarei.pdf)

This study aimed to explore the attitudes of Community Mental Health Team clinicians and patients experiencing severe mental illness towards physical healthcare and its provision.

[The impact of COVID-19 on children and young people in Scotland: 2 to 4 year olds](https://www.publichealthscotland.scot/media/2881/the-impact-of-covid-19-on-children-and-young-people-2-4-year-olds-nov2020-english.pdf)

A report from Public Health Scotland.

[Understanding the Relationships Between Parenting Stress and Mental Health with Grandparent Kinship Caregivers’ Risky Parenting Behaviors in the Time of COVID-19](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48653/xu2020_article_understandingtherelationshipsb.pdf)

This study aims to examine:

* the relationships between parenting stress, mental health, and grandparent kinship caregivers’ risky parenting practices, such as psychological aggression, corporal punishment, and neglectful behaviours towards their grandchildren during the COVID-19 pandemic, and
* whether grandparent kinship caregivers’ mental health is a potential mediator between parenting stress and caregivers’ psychological aggression, corporal punishment, and neglectful behaviours.

[Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Act 2019: Framework for Statutory Bodies](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48666/equalplusprotectionplusactplus-plusframeworkplusdocumentplusforplusstatutoryplusbodiesplus-plusfinalplusversion.pdf)

The purpose of this framework document is:

* to explain the effect of the Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Act 2019 (“the Act”) and
* to establish a framework for implementation of the Act for statutory bodies  in Scotland

[Emotion Regulation and Decision-Making in Persons with Dementia](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48654/1471301220971630.pdf)

Emotion is integral to decision-making, and emotion regulation is associated with improved well-being in older age. Persons with dementia are likely to experience impairments in emotion regulation processes that can potentially contribute to differential decision-making and well-being outcomes. To promote the development of theoretical models of well-being in dementia, this paper reviews the quantitative evidence concerning the associations between emotion regulation and decision-making in dementia.

[Online benefits training](https://cpag.org.uk/training-and-events/events?f%5B0%5D=field_event_venue%253Acity%3AOnline%20Scotland)

Online training is available from the Child Poverty Action Group.

[A Critical Juncture for Public Services: Lessons from COVID-19](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48640/167.pdf)

This report examines what the experience of the coronavirus outbreak can tell us about the future role, priorities and shape of public services. COVID-19 has exposed ongoing fundamental deficiencies in the delivery of public services that prevent or hinder people from accessing the support on which they rely, but it has also encouraged public services to introduce highly innovative approaches. The report makes recommendations on how public services should be transformed to address these fundamental weaknesses, and how public service reform should build on the innovations seen during the pandemic.

[The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: UK Implementation](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48646/cbp-7367.pdf)

This briefing paper describes the findings of the United Nations (UN) Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities’ investigation into the UK in 2016, the UK and Devolved Government reactions, and subsequent developments, including the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on disabled persons’ rights.

[The State of Ageing in 2020](https://www.ageing-better.org.uk/state-of-ageing-20)

This report uses publicly available data to give a snapshot of what life is like for people aged 65 and older today. It then investigates the prospects for people currently in their 50s and 60s, looking across four areas:

* Work and finances
* Housing
* Health
* Communities

[Independent Review of Adult Social Care](https://www.gov.scot/publications/independent-review-of-adult-social-care-terms-of-reference/)

The Review of Adult Social Care in Scotland was announced by the First Minister as part of the Programme for Government on 1 September 2020. The principal aim of the review is to recommend improvements to adult social care in Scotland, primarily in terms of the outcomes achieved by and with people who use services, their carers and families, and the experience of people who work in adult social care. The review will take a human-rights based approach.

[How Safe Are Our Children? 2020](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/47938/how-safe-are-our-children-2020.pdf)

Since 2013, NSPCC's annual *How Safe Are Our Children?* report has compiled and analysed data from across the UK to show the current child protection landscape. In 2020, for the first time, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) took on this task. NSPCC took this opportunity to refocus the report, and look in more detail at statistics relating to abuse perpetrated against adolescents. The report also includes an overview of emerging data on the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the safety of children and young people in the UK.

[Report of a Joint Inspection of Services for Children and Young People in Need of Care and Protection in Midlothian](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/47939/joint-insp-children-young-people-services-midlothian-august-2020.pdf)

The joint inspection of services for children and young people in the Midlothian community planning partnership area took place between 3 February and 13 March 2020. It covered the range of partners in the area that have a role in providing services for children, young people and families.

[Children's Social Work Statistics Scotland, 2018-19](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/47954/childrens-social-work-statistics-scotland-2018-19.pdf)

This revised report presents information collected from local authorities and secure units on children and young people, who were formally looked after; under child protection measures; or in secure care at some point between 1 August 2018 and 31 July 2019.

[COVID-19: Christmas and New Year guidance for adult care homes and visitors](https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/coronavirus/Adult_Care_Homes_Christmas_and_New_Year_guidance_-_FINAL_4.12.20.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

The Scottish Government has released guidance for **adult care homes and visitors over the Christmas and New Year period.** The guidance sets out specific safeguards that care homes can put in place to support festive activities while continuing to manage transmission risk.

[Understanding day to day social work teaching, learning and practice during COVID-19:A global perspective](https://www.iassw-aiets.org/covid-19/covid-19-news/5817-5817/)

The background to this study is the COVID-19 pandemic with the recognition that social work practitioners, educators and students contribute to meeting the challenges this pandemic presents the international community.

During the early stages of the pandemic, the International Associations of Schools of Social Work invited practitioners, students and educators to submit accounts of how COVID-19 has impacted their work. Individuals from over 15 countries replied. An analysis of their reports is the bases of this survey.

With this study, the aim is to understand the impact COVID-19 is having on social work students, practitioners and educators at this current time juncture. The findings will help policymakers and educators to improve and adapt their services and give representation to the experiences of practitioners, educators and students.

[Equally Safe](https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/progress-report/2020/11/equally-safe-final-report/documents/equally-safe-year-three-update-report-november-2020/equally-safe-year-three-update-report-november-2020/govscot%3Adocument/equally-safe-year-three-update-report-november-2020.pdf?forceDownload=true)

The Year 3 report for Equally Safe, the national strategy to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls, which contains details of important milestones and achievements over the lifetime of the strategy. It reflects progress and challenges over the last year, much of which has taken place in the unprecedented climate of the COVID-19 pandemic.

[COVID-19: Christmas and New Year Guidance for Adult Care Homes and Visitors](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48755/adult_care_homes_christmas_and_new_year_guidance_-_final_41220.pdf)

This guidance aims to reiterate existing national guidelines that all care homes should safely resume indoor visiting where recommended. Ideally, care homes should seek to achieve this for the coming festive period where that has not already been done. The guidance also sets out specific safeguards that care homes can put in place to support festive activities while continuing to manage transmission risk.

[All Party Parliamentary Group on Coronavirus Interim Report](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48754/appg_on_coronavirus_interim_report_december_2020__-2.pdf)

This report contains 71 key findings, which inform 44 recommendations. The recommendations range from the very specific (on Long COVID recognition and support) to the operational (highlighting the need for the 'Isolate' part of Test, Trace, Isolate to be financially compensated more generously) and the strategic (the lack of a coherent exit strategy).

[Defining Empowerment for Older People Living with Dementia from Multiple Perspectives](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48743/1-s20-s0020748920303114-main.pdf)

This study aimed to explore what the concept of empowerment means and includes for people living with dementia from the perspectives of people living with dementia themselves, their informal caregivers, and healthcare professionals.

[A Systematic Review of Risk and Protective Factors of Mental Health in Unaccompanied Minor Refugees](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/48742/hoehne2020_article_asystematicreviewofriskandprot.pdf)

This study aimed to summarise and evaluate the existing findings of specific risk and protective factors to identify the most verified influences on the mental health of Unaccompanied Minor Refugees.