 Public Protection Bulletin 

5th February 2021

Dear colleague,

There is encouraging news that significant progress is already being made in rolling out the vaccination programme to the most vulnerable members of our community, and health and social care staff. However as frontline agencies and organisations, we face some of the most significant challenges to date in supporting and protecting people against the new faster spreading variant of the virus.

Lessons were learned during the first lock down and despite the cumulative impact on frontline staff and volunteers, I am confident that we are better placed to support people through this latest lock down. Our combined services continue to be flexible and responsive to emerging needs. This includes working to mitigate the impact of lockdown and social isolation on mental health and wellbeing.

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 accordingly, 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.

Please stay safe and healthy,

Best wishes,

Colin

Colin Anderson,

Independent Chair

Adult Support & Protection Committee/Child Protection Committee

[The disproportionate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on disabled people](https://policyscotland.gla.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/PSGCPHGDACOVIDMicroBrief1Disability.pdf)

This micro briefing sets out key evidence relating to existing inequalities endured by disabled people which relate to COVID-19, as well as presenting recent evidence and insights concerning the impacts of the pandemic and its ‘lockdown’ disease containment policies on disabled people.

[Comparing Two Predictors of Sexual Recidivism](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/49170/comparing-2-predictors-sexual-recidivism.pdf)

This study aimed to inform decisions about the risk assessment of men convicted of sexual offences. It did this by testing the predictive validity for sexual reoffending – the ability to separate lower- and higher-risk individuals – of two actuarial risk instruments, the OASys Sexual Reoffending Predictor (OSP) and the Risk Matrix 2000/s.

[The Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness of Assistive Technology and Telecare for Independent Living in Dementia](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/49189/afaa284.pdf)

The use of assistive technology and telecare (ATT) has been promoted to manage risks associated with independent living in people with dementia but with little evidence for effectiveness. This study aimed to test the clinical and cost-effectiveness of ATT in supporting people with dementia to continue to live safely within their own homes.

[Negotiating Female Genital Cutting in a Transnational Context](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/49136/1049732320979183.pdf)

This article explores migrant Somali and Sudanese women’s reflections and decision-making regarding female genital cutting in a transnational context wherein women are compelled to manoeuvre between contradictory social norms. These include traditional norms, which consider the practice to be associated with socially acceptable sexuality and reproduction, and international norms, which consider the practice to be a violation of sexual and reproductive rights.

[Long-Term Monitoring of Health Inequalities](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/49179/long-term-monitoring-health-inequalities.pdf)

This Scottish Government report presents a range of indicators selected in order to monitor health inequalities over time. With the exception of the Healthy Birthweight indicator, significant health inequalities persist for each indicator covered in the report.

[Scottish Health Survey](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/49173/scottish-health-survey-2020-edition-telephone-survey-volume-1-main-report.pdf)

This telephone survey report provides a snapshot of the health of Scotland’s population, both physical and mental, during a short period within the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Associations of Intimate Partner Violence and Financial Adversity with Familial Homelessness in Pregnant and Postpartum Women](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/49138/journalpone0245507.pdf)

This prospective, observational study estimates prevalence and life course trends of IPV on incident homelessness in a cohort of mothers over seven years.

[Evidence-Informed Interventions and Best Practices for Supporting Women Experiencing or At Risk of Homelessness](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/49137/hpcdp-41-1-01-eng.pdf)

Research has shown that women experiencing homelessness are often hidden (i.e. provisionally housed) and have different pathways into homelessness and different needs as compared to men. The objective of this research was to identify evidence-based interventions and best practices to better support women experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

Refugee Integration Toolkits

These three toolkits are aimed at national, regional, and local public authorities and civic society organisations assisting refugees to rebuild new lives in Scotland and further afield.

They are:

* [**Toolkit 1 – Tools to support individual refugees**](https://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Tools-to-support-individual-refugees-1.pdf) presents tools drawn from the direct services Scottish Refugee Council, the Bridges Programmes and Workers’ Education association ran. These include curricula for running “Survival English” courses to meet refugees’ immediate language and social orientation needs and how to develop personalised integration and employment plan with refugees.
* [**Toolkit 2 – Building national and regional infrastructure to support refugee integration**](https://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Building-infrastructure-to-support-refugee-integration-2.pdf) describes how the Refugee Council built [**New Scots Connect**](https://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/new-scots-connect-map/), a physical and digital network bringing together all different organisations welcoming and supporting refugees across Scotland at a local level.
* [**Toolkit 3 – Tools for community integration**](https://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Tools-to-support-community-integration-3.pdf) translates the various integration projects the Council and Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees ran to support community integration at a local level that others can adopt. These include how they delivered a small grants scheme to 93 community groups, a good practice for integration projects building refugees’ social connections and language and how to set up a run a holiday hosting programme.

[Ms C Safeguarding Adults Review](https://www.eastsussexsab.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/SAR-Adult-C-final-report.pdf)

A review report published by East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board, with issues around chronic trauma, mental health, domestic abuse, substance misuse and homelessness.

<https://www.careknowledge.com/media/49118/report_07_19jan.pdf>

The Co-SPACE project is tracking the mental health of school-aged children and young people aged 4-16 years (at the beginning of the study) throughout the COVID-19 crisis. An online survey is sent out and completed on a monthly basis by parents/carers and young people (if aged 11-16 years at baseline) throughout the pandemic.

[Global Drug Survey 2020](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/49115/gds2020-executive-summary.pdf)

This report presents the findings from an annual survey of the drug and alcohol habits of over 110,000 people in over 25 countries.

[Infants born into care in Scotland](https://www.scadr.ac.uk/sites/default/files/Infants%20born%20into%20care%20in%20Scotland%20report0411web.pdf)

This report from the Scottish Centre for Administrative Data Research is one of the first outputs from a project that uses data linked over time to describe the patterns of care for infants ‘born into care’.

[Leading a Remote Team](https://www.careknowledge.com/resources/special-reports/2021/jan/leading-a-remote-team?utm_source=https://news.pavpub.com/olmgroup_prolz/&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CK%20Tuesday%202nd%20February%20Scotland&utm_term=A%20report%20on%20the%20challenges%20of%20a%20remote%20workforce,%20and%20much%20more&utm_content=154815&gator_td=tpjadtzn3Bd4B8Sr53jycUbDA/sxBzw1tzRiy2L4DJ2rrHhAtkwWhcH+j8xTKIs/kG+uyurOfvc4JpKFh4mEGICcjAJIgMrGw5zcCaGbLAJjXfFOSdH812ULQ0y3gn3FXmYZUT717rHL/P5o4UdWq7xx9DdUSR6Ea+JZ81qrYB0)

This article looks at the challenges and opportunities presented by a remote workforce, and in particular the issues facing leaders when it comes to teambuilding and office culture.

[Guidance for the Homeless Persons (Unsuitable Accommodation) (Scotland) Order](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/49333/guidance-homeless-persons-unsuitable-accommodation-scotland-order-2014-amended.pdf)

The purpose of this guidance is to help local authorities in their duties to assist people who are threatened with or who are experiencing homelessness and aims to explain the changes that have been created by the new legislation as well as providing clarity on the definitions and exemptions to help local authorities with the implementation of the Unsuitable Accommodation Order extension.

[The Case for Open Access Emotional Health and Wellbeing Services](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/49327/the-case-for-open-access-hubs.pdf)

Open access hubs are designed to offer easy-to-access, drop in support on a self-referral basis for young people with emotional health and well-being needs, up to age 25. This briefing from The Children’s Society intends to set out the case as to why these hubs are essential for the emotional health and well-being of children and young people.

[Sibling sexual abuse: A knowledge and practice overview](https://www.csacentre.org.uk/knowledge-in-practice/practice-improvement/sibling-sexual-abuse/)

Combining an overview of the current research and practice knowledge, the report was prepared by Stuart Allardyce, Director at Lucy Faithful Foundation, with responsibilities for Stop It Now! Scotland, with Dr Peter Yates, lecturer and Programme Lead in Social Work at Edinburgh Napier University. The findings of the report stress a child-first approach, and focusses on supporting practice, providing an accessible resource to help professionals understand the issues and challenges raised by sibling sexual abuse.

[The Poverty-related Attainment Gap - Evidence Review](https://www.povertyalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/The-Poverty-related-Attainment-Gap-A-Review-of-the-Evidence-2.pdf)

New analysis, undertaken by the Poverty Alliance on behalf of The Robertson Trust, has examined the evidence on the links between poverty, education and work pathways for young people in Scotland and across the UK. It found evidence that the poverty-attainment gap – already identified by the Scottish Government as a key priority – shows signs of increasing and risks being further compounded by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

[Independent Review of Adult Social Care in Scotland](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/49350/independent-review-adult-care-scotland.pdf)

The final report on a review, commissioned by Scottish Government with the remit to recommend improvements to adult social care support in Scotland, primarily in terms of the outcomes achieved by and with people who use services.

[Covid-19 Recovery and Resilience: What Can Health and Care Learn from Other Disasters?](https://features.kingsfund.org.uk/2021/02/covid-19-recovery-resilience-health-care/)

This article aims to understand what the health and care system can learn from the experience of recovery from other disasters. While COVID-19 can feel like an entirely unique event, there are parallels with and lessons to be learned from other disasters from the past 20 years.

[Care Ethics for Supported Decision-Making](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/49340/care-ethics-for-supported-decision-making-a-narrative-policy-analysis-regarding-social-work-in-cases-of-dementia-and-self-neglect.pdf)

An article which examines how national policies in Sweden guide care managers to work ethically in cases of self-neglect among older persons with dementia.

[Parent-Perceived Barriers to Accessing Services for their Child’s Mental Health Problems](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/49363/hansen2021_article_parent-perceivedbarrierstoacce.pdf)

A Danish study which aimed to investigate parent-perceived barriers to accessing services for their child’s mental health problems, in order to identify potential areas for improvement of access to CAMHS.

[Every Life Matters: the First Two Years](https://www.careknowledge.com/media/49355/life-matters-first-two-years-review-scotlands-suicide-prevention-action-plan-2018-2020.pdf)

A review of progress made on Every Life Matters, Scotland’s Suicide Prevention Action Plan (SPAP) 2018-2021, over the period September 2018 to October 2020.