



South Lanarkshire Public Protection Bulletin COVID-19 Edition 2

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to our second Public Protection Bulletin which provides updates, press releases and web links related to the coronavirus emergency.

As we all know this continues to be an extremely fluid and high-risk situation and some of you will be receiving information from other sources so please feel free to use the bulletin for distribution as appropriate.

Many thanks to all of you working to keep our most vulnerable adults, young people and children safe in South Lanarkshire.

Stay safe

Safaa

Safaa Baxter, Independent Chair

South Lanarkshire Adult Support and Child Protection Committees

Key Resources

1. The following briefing was sent out to people across Lanarkshire to remind them that they must proactively inform visiting community health and social care staff if they are showing signs of having Coronavirus (COVID-19) related symptoms by telephone, ahead of the visit. This vitally important information will allow necessary steps to protect the health of the workforce whilst helping to reduce the potential spread of the virus to other patients and service users.

[South Lanarkshire - Think ahead Keep our Health and Social Care Staff Safe \(COVID-19\)](#)

2. The following article from South Lanarkshire Adult Protection Committee urges everyone to act if they are concerned about an adult at risk of harm. If people need support or feel unsafe, we are urging them to contact South Lanarkshire Social Work Resources on 0303 123 1008 or call the Police on 101. Working together we can keep adults at risk safe from harm.

[South Lanarkshire Review - Look out for Vulnerable Adults and Children COVID-19](#)

3. South Lanarkshire Child Protection Committee highlights that the public are being asked to think about potentially vulnerable children and young people who may be at risk of harm, abuse or neglect in our communities. With the closure of schools and nurseries during the Covid-19 crisis, the Committee are urging everyone to keep their eyes and ears open for children who may be at risk during this time as part of a national [Eyes Open Campaign - Protecting Children \(COVID-19\)](#)

Child Protection Committees Scotland, a national grouping of child protection professionals, supports all efforts by the Scottish Government, local authorities and the third sector to keep children safe from harm during the enforced break in normal routine and urges everyone to take action if they are concerned about a child or young person.

If you are worried please don't hesitate to contact South Lanarkshire Social Work Resources on 0303 123 1008, or call the Police on 101. Working together we can keep children and young people safe.

4. The Police Scotland online child sexual abuse campaign, called [#GetHelpOrGetCaught](#), launched on the 14th April 2020, is important at a time when children are spending increased amounts of time online during the Coronavirus lockdown. Here you can find out more about online child sexual abuse, how to report it, as well as information for victims, their families and perpetrators. The sexual abuse of children and young people online is hugely damaging for victims and their families (and for perpetrator's families). The consequences can last a lifetime, damaging relationships, health and long-term wellbeing. You can find out more on Police Scotland website: [Police Scotland - Online Safety & Child Sexual Abuse Campaign \(2020\)](#).

5. The Care Inspectorate and their scrutiny partners are committed to supporting providers of health and care services during this very challenging time. This means reducing demands on staff in key services who need to focus their attention elsewhere, particularly if levels of staff sickness increase. This will allow the prioritisation of their resources to where they consider immediate risks highest. As a result, they have taken the decision to suspend the

joint Adult Support and Protection inspection programme at this time.

In addition to the above the [Care Inspectorate](#) have taken the decision to scale down inspections of care services and joint inspections of local authority social work services and health and social care partnerships, at this time.

6. Covid-19 - [Health Protection Scotland](#) continues to update its guidance for health protection teams and healthcare practitioners as the situation evolves, as well as providing guidance for non-healthcare settings including schools, places of detention, and separate guidance for social care settings. Information is also available on the [NHS Inform](#) website.
7. BASW (British Association of Social Workers) opened up a [Survey for Social Workers](#) to provide feedback on their experiences of working during the coronavirus pandemic. To date more than 1,200 social workers have provided feedback on their experiences and concerns, as well as [Best Practice & Resources](#). This provides an overview of the findings and the actions BASW is taking. More information can be found on their [website](#).
8. [Clinical Guidance for Managing COVID-19 for RCN Members](#). This guidance provides RCN members across the health and social care workforce, including nursing support workers and students, with clinical information and key resources to support their understanding of and help them with the management of COVID-19.
9. Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT) is closely monitoring the evolving COVID-19 emergency situation. The following frequently asked questions provide members with guidance on the changing situation on their website: [Royal College of Occupational Therapists \(COVID-19\) FAQs](#)
10. The [Take Five](#) project is a national campaign offering straightforward, impartial advice that helps prevent email, phone based and online fraud – particularly where criminals impersonate trusted organisations.
11. Police Scotland note fraud is a crime in which some kind of deception is used for personal gain. As technology advances, fraudsters have become increasingly sophisticated and many types of fraud exist. They have provided important [information for victims](#) and the public on different types of fraud and advice on how you can avoid becoming a victim.
12. The [Scottish Government](#) continues to update its information regularly. The National coronavirus [Covid-19 Helpline](#) has launched. It provides free advice on coronavirus for Scotland run by Advice Direct Scotland. Practical advice and information on issues including employment, housing, personal finance, cancellations and consumer rights. Free phone number, live web chat, email, social media and online knowledge centre.
Phone: **0808 800 9060** 9am and 5pm on Monday to Friday.
13. [Promoting positive mental wellbeing for older people: A quick guide for registered managers of care homes](#) is a quick guide produced by NICE and SCIE, published February 2020.

14. The Scottish Commission for Learning Disability (SCLD) has produced guidance for people with learning disabilities on the coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak. This includes easy-read common questions and stay at home advice. Find out more on their website [here](#): or join their Facebook group 'SCLD Stay in Touch', which is open to anyone.
15. National guidance from Health Protection Scotland, [Covid-19 Information and guidance for Social or Community Care and Residential Settings](#) has been updated. Please ensure you now refer to version 1.6 published on 2 April. The revised guidance provides more detailed information on the **use of PPE** within primary, outpatient and community care settings. Particular attention must be given in circumstances where a 'shielded' person, who has been deemed vulnerable, is being cared for; single use disposable plastic aprons, gloves and surgical mask must be worn for the protection of the patient.
16. The Care Inspectorate has published [Supporting Care Services that Experience Critical Staff Shortages during Covid-19](#). The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) in collaboration with NHS Education Scotland (NES) has set up a service to find extra staff that will enable organisations to deliver care and support.

To help with this process, organisations should tell the Care Inspectorate when they are having staffing difficulties by using a new notification, called 'Covid19: staff shortages'. The Care Inspectorate will share information from this notification with the SSSC/NES to help them support services with the most critical need for extra staff.

The notification will use a traffic light system, and all services will automatically be set to Green, to signify no staffing difficulties. If this changes, you can then update the notification to Amber or Red. You don't have to do this every day, only as the situation changes. This can be done by using Care Inspectorate [e-forms](#).

This new notification is in addition to others the Care Inspectorate have recently introduced or adjusted to help support care during COVID-19 as follows:

- [Outbreak of Infectious Diseases](#) - For any outbreak of an infectious disease, including COVID-19
- [Death of a Servicer User](#) – for any death of a service user, including from confirmed or suspected COVID-19
- Change of circumstances related to COVID-19 – this is a new notification that services can use to tell us about any changes to how they operate that is specifically related to COVID_19. This is only available through [e-forms](#)
- [Staff Shortages Survey](#) – this is the newest notification and enables services to tell us about changes to staffing levels and what additional staffing is required

17. Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) has developed a new template document to specifically support Anticipatory Care Planning (ACP) conversations in the context of the COVID-19 outbreak. HIS worked with the Scottish Government and national stakeholders to develop this new national resource.

The COVID-19 ACP template is for use by health and social care staff to support individuals who would benefit from ACP. It is not designed for sole use by individuals and their families without guidance. Please use the [template here](#) and also find additional information relating to ACP support.

18. The Mental Welfare Commission is being contacted for advice on mental health care and treatment related to this pandemic. In light of this, and the emergency legislation passed by parliament, they have updated their advice note for practitioners who are using the Mental Health Act and Adults with Incapacity Act when caring for patients.

- Please read this Advice Note and share it with colleagues who may find it helpful
- Please also note that it will likely be updated frequently as the situation develops
- Please also check the MWC website for the latest version

[Mental Welfare Commission Advice \(April-2020\)](#)

E-mail enquiries@mwscot.org.uk if you have any questions or comments.

19. The Scottish Government announced additional support for victims of domestic violence during the COVID-19 outbreak. Grants from the Scottish Government's Communities Fund have been made to Scottish Women's Aid and Rape Crisis Scotland to ensure that access to these key support services is maintained and victims still have access to methods of reporting crimes during the crisis, including using online video platforms, text messaging and phone calls.

Further information:

- Scotland's 24hr Domestic Abuse and Forced Marriage [helpline](#) is available on **0800 027 1234**.
- Rape Crisis Scotland Helpline is available on **08088 01 03 02**. Calls to this number are free. Or email support@rapecrisisscotland.org.uk or text **07537 410027**.

20. The [Age Scotland](#) helpline is a free, confidential phone service for older people, their carers and families in Scotland. The team provide information, friendship and advice. The helpline is free to call and available Monday – Friday 9-5pm

CALL - 0800 12 44 222

21. **SAFELIVES** have put together guidance on staying safe during Covid-19 for victims and survivors of Domestic Abuse. A really useful guide for frontline workers that can also be shared with the general public with handy tips and considerations during this time. Please visit their website for more information: [Staying Safe during Covid-19 Guidance](#)

22. **Legislation** - The Coronavirus Act 2020 was introduced to respond to the emergency situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Act received Royal Assent on 26th March and the [Coronavirus \(Scotland\) Bill](#) passed by the Scottish Parliament on 1 April and received Royal Assent on 6 April. The provisions came into force on 7 April 2020.

23. The Scottish Government has issued advice on temporary changes to adults with incapacity arrangements. This guidance accompanies the provisions relating to adults lacking capacity in the Coronavirus (Scotland) Bill. These provisions will only come into force when and if Ministers approve its use by invoking regulations.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) AWI Guidance](#)

24. A new national helpline called Ready Scotland has been set up to provide essential assistance to those who do not have a network of support but who are at high risk of contracting COVID-19. This links callers to local resilience partnerships who can offer the required support.

The service will offer help to those who do not have family or existing community support and is in addition to localised support already available for people who have received letters advising them to shield themselves. However, any of those in the shielding category who have not yet received assistance, who do not have family and cannot get online - can access support via this new helpline.

The helpline number is **0800 111 4000**.

