

ScotPHN Team Bulletin – 014

Welcome to the fourteenth ScotPHN Team bulletin and our first of 2021! We hope that whilst succinct, it remains informative. On that note, we continue to seek all and any feedback. We are eager to capture and share key highlights from across the public health landscape and therefore welcome submission of content at any time.

Please read, cascade and respond [via reply email](#) as appropriate and as time allows.

National Leadership Group, Special Interest Group & Project - updates & resources

Scottish COVID-19 Contact Tracing Programme

Weekly updates are now available from the Tracing Programme. Further information can be found on the [PHS website](#) or to receive weekly, Monday updates, contact PHS.COVID-19ContactTracingProgramme@phs.scot

Public Health Scotland Dashboard

Public Health Scotland daily updates on coronavirus figures and cases

- Available on their [dashboard](#).

Coronavirus (COVID-19): modelling the epidemic (issue no. 37) – Scottish Government

Scottish Government model the COVID-19 epidemic in Scotland, both in terms of the spread of the disease through the population (epidemiological modelling) and of the demands it will place on the system, for example in terms of health care requirement.

- [Access the latest findings](#) (last published 04/02/2021)

ONS Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection Survey – antibody data - 3 February 2021

ONS have changed the way antibody estimates are reported and are now presenting weighted estimates for 28-day periods of antibody positivity, rather than monthly estimates. This approach will allow for more frequent updates and antibody data will now be published fortnightly. Please note that these 28 day estimates cannot be directly compared with previously published antibody estimates

- [Read more information](#)

Covid-19 Shielding Programme - Public Health Scotland Publication

The 'COVID-19 Shielding Programme (Scotland) rapid evaluation' report has been published from Public Health Scotland. The evaluation report can be accessed

[here](#). Additionally a brief animation can be found here: [YouTube version](#) or [Vimeo version](#).

A few key findings:

- Shielding correctly targeted individuals at higher risk - but others, also at higher risk, were not included;
- Shielding guidance changed people's behaviour - but some would also have 'shielded' without the guidance;
- Shielding support addressed real need - but the support could not address all needs;
- There is not enough evidence to answer the question whether shielding resulted in fewer infections;
- Future approaches need to consider: opportunities for informed choice, the multi-faceted nature of risk and the risk of hospital-onset infections.

Faculty of Public Health Statement on COVID-19 Vaccine Equity

FPH published a statement on 01 February 2021 advocating that *'It is right that those at greatest risk are prioritised in receiving the vaccine. But in order to do this, barriers to access for disadvantaged and minority ethnic communities, such as the requirement to register with a GP, must be removed.'*

- [Read the full statement and linked information sources](#)

Coronavirus (COVID-19) update: First Minister's statement - 4 February 2021

Statement given by the First Minister Nicola Sturgeon at a media briefing in St Andrew's House, Edinburgh on Thursday 4 February 2021.

- [Access the statement](#)

Coronavirus (COVID19): Advisory Sub-Group on Education and Children's Issues

Advisory note from the Advisory Sub-Group on Education and Children's Issues – advice on phased return to in-person learning in schools and early learning and childcare (ELC) settings

- [Read the short advisory note](#)

Extended households and living alone – Scottish Government update 03/04/21

What extended households are, who they are for, and rules you need to follow if you have formed one.

- [Access and share the guidance](#)

Barriers to adherence with COVID-19 restrictions – Scottish Government

This Scottish Government report presents information from qualitative research into people's experiences about how they understand and feel able to adhere to coronavirus restrictions.

- [Access the report](#)

Scottish Government Budget Statement 2021-22

Statement given to Parliament by Finance Secretary Kate Forbes on 28 January 2021.

- [Read the budget statement](#)

COSLA statement on participatory budgeting and joint Letter

On 29th January COSLA Leaders renewed their commitment to Participatory Budgeting and welcomed the flexibility to deliver on the [1% Framework Agreement](#), originally due to be realised by March 2021.

Cllr Kelly Parry COSLA Community Wellbeing Spokesperson and Aileen Campbell, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government has since issued a [joint letter](#) to local authorities acknowledging the progress being made locally and renewing their joint commitment to mainstreaming participatory budgeting.

- [Access the full COSLA statement](#)
- [Read the joint Letter to Local Authorities](#)

COSLA – Elected Members briefings as shared 03 February 2021

COSLA routinely publish information on the briefings shared to their Elected Members.

- [Access the February 2021 briefing information](#)

Alcohol and drug partnerships: additional Scottish Government funding 2020-2021

Additional funding has been made available to Alcohol and Drug Partnerships for this financial year (2020-21) to support work to reduce drug deaths in Scotland.

Details are below, as well as a letter from the Scottish Government to Integration Authorities setting out a total of £3 million allocation to increase provision of residential drug rehabilitation placements and improve access to treatment and harm reduction activities. Funding has been based on the number of drug deaths in each area.

- [Access further information, including distribution of funding](#)

Review of Scotland's Suicide Prevention Action Plan 2018 – 2020 – Scottish Government

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.

- [Read the review](#)

Independent Review of Adult Social Care in Scotland – Scottish Government

The Independent Review of Adult Social Care in Scotland was led by Derek Feeley, a former Scottish Government Director General for Health and Social Care and Chief Executive of NHS Scotland. Mr Feeley was supported by an Advisory Panel comprising Scottish and International experts.

- [Access the review](#)

Housing needs of minority ethnic groups: evidence review (Scottish Government)

This report provides a review of the literature on the housing needs and experiences of minority ethnic groups in Scotland, and presents results of secondary data analysis. The research also identifies gaps in the evidence and suggests areas where further research could be useful.

- [Access the evidence review](#)

ScotPHN Networks

Scottish Managed Network for Sustainability (SMaSH)

Adaptation Scotland Survey

As part of a wider redevelopment of our website we are refreshing the climate science content and tools we provide. To help with this we want to learn more about the content and tools that you need.

Fill in our quick survey by 22 Feb 2021 and help us help you:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ZKX9TZT>

Adaptation Scotland – Publication

‘Did you know that Scotland’s top 10 warmest years have all occurred since 1997 since records began in 1884?’

Adaptation Scotland have published a ‘Climate Predictions for Scotland’ Summary, accessible [here](#).

Scottish Health Inequalities Impact Assessment Network (SHIAN)

A systematic review has been undertaken on the associations between population density or neighbourhood design and transmission of Covid-19 or other respiratory viruses.

Dr. Margaret Douglas (Programme Co-Director, Masters of Public Health (on campus), Usher Institute, University of Edinburgh and Honorary Consultant in Public Health, Public Health Scotland) concludes the review in brief as follows:

‘This review found no convincing evidence of a link between population density and transmission of Covid-19 and other respiratory infections. Although the possibility of an association cannot be ruled out, the current evidence does not suggest a need to change the current Scottish Government policy of support for the ‘20-minute neighbourhood’ concept. Similarly, no clear conclusion can be drawn about any association between other characteristics of neighbourhood design and transmission of respiratory infection, including Covid-19. Further multi-disciplinary research using appropriate, sophisticated designs, is needed to allow a better understanding of links between neighbourhood characteristics and transmission of respiratory infections.’

- [Access the systematic review](#)

PHP5 Network

Recruitment: Public Health Scotland - Organisational Lead for Regional Economies and Health

Info: 2 year fixed term or secondment. Post based within the ScotPHO team in PHS. Initial work allocation will support Glasgow City Region to develop their 10 year strategy.

Additional info: <https://apply.jobs.scot.nhs.uk/displayjob.aspx?jobid=42225>

ScotPHN Projects

Gambling Related Harm (GRH)

GRH - PhD Student opportunity

Alliance Scotland PhD Scholarship - Exploring the role of individuals with lived experience of gambling harms in policy and research. The University of Glasgow are looking for a highly ambitious student with an interest in gambling research policy, public health and applied social research methods. Full details on this opportunity can be found [here](#).

ME-CFS Healthcare Needs Assessment Briefing

ScotPHN has considered an update of its 2010 healthcare needs assessment (HCNA) for adults with a diagnosis of ME-CFS; a desk-based exercise which has focused on a review of the epidemiological literature published since the original 2010.

- [Read and share the briefing](#)

General Updates

Sustrans Low Traffic Neighbourhood Evidence

Sustrans have recently published a guide to the evidence around low traffic neighbourhoods. Understanding the evidence on the impact of low-traffic neighbourhoods (LTNs) on cities and communities is an important part of their successful delivery. The Sustrans information provides a handy reference list of existing research on low-traffic neighbourhoods to meet the evidence needs of any practitioners implementing them.

- [Access the evidence and information](#)

Child Poverty Action Group – COVID-19 Surveys

CPAG have launched two surveys; one for parents and carers and another for children and young people. These surveys are designed to better understand issues

raised with education during COVID-19, in particular any financial barriers or issues. For full details please see CPAG's [Twitter post here](#).

Joseph Rowntree Foundation – Annual Report 2020/21

The 2020/21 report on U.K. Poverty has been published and can be found [here](#).

'We are in the midst of the coronavirus storm – a turbulent time when all of us have felt insecurity and instability. But our analysis shows too many of us entered the pandemic already at risk of being cast adrift into poverty, while often lacking secure housing, a reliable income or adequate support. It also shows that those of us already struggling to keep our heads above water have often been hit the hardest.'

Virtual Events and Campaigns

Four Nations Webinar Series 2021 - Policing and Public Health

'Public Health Approaches in Policing and Serious Violence Across the UK: The Learning So Far'

A wide range of national contributors will contribute to the webinar series, including Public Health Scotland and Police Scotland.

Following the launch of the National Police/Health Consensus supported by the College of Policing Public Health principles, development of the Violence Reduction Units and numerous discussion papers, there is a national policing and public health appetite for sharing practice, information, innovation and ideas. Angela Leitch, CEO of Public Health Scotland and ACC Gary Ritchie (Partnerships, Prevention and Community Wellbeing) will be co-convening the *Whole System Approaches* focused day on 11 February 2021. Other speakers include: Supt Emma Croft (Mental Health Pathways), Inspector Elaine Tomlinson & Kevin O'Neil (Distress Brief Interventions), Janet Whitley (Collective Leadership) and a presentation on Learning from the Scottish VRU by Will Linden and Callum Hutchison.

Date: Five-day event **Monday 8th – Friday 12th February 2021**

- Access the [full programme](#)
- [Register to attend](#)

Gambling Related Harms – Seminar

Community Justice Glasgow is holding a seminar in conjunction with ScotPHN on, 'Gambling Harms – A Community Justice Issue'

The seminar is open to all partners working across community justice settings in Glasgow and aims to:

- Raise awareness of the links between gambling and offending;
- Give an overview of gambling harms in the current landscape;
- Give voice to lived experience; and
- Create a space of partners to consider what can be done to reduce gambling harms experienced by individuals and families.

Date: Thursday 11 February 2021

Time: 10:00

- [Register to attend](#)

[The International Society for Social Paediatrics and Child Health \(ISSOP\) - Climate change and child health – Monthly webinar series](#)

First event - “Child Health and Sustainability: Defining and Responding to the Impact of Climate Change on Children”. Anthony Costello (previously Professor of international child health at UCL, Director of the Department of Maternal Child and Adolescent health at the WHO, and now chair of the Lancet commission) on managing the health effects of climate change is lead speaker, along with Lancet Countdown colleagues Alice McGushin and Marina Romanello.

Date: Thursday 25th February

Time: 17:00

Location: Virtual event

This webinar series will continue thereafter with themes aimed at informing and inspiring child health professionals (including population and individual level professionals) to respond to the impact of climate change on children. Following International Q&A at the sessions, there will be regional break-outs for strategic discussions on taking action.

They will take place monthly until August 2021 (generally 5pm (GMT) on the last Thursday of the month.)

If registering to attend please inform Lucy Reynolds, Consultant Paediatrician in Glasgow who is assessing interest in Scotland to inform an approach for child health impact of climate change at COP 26, and also seeks to identify links with other NGOs to form partnership working with other expert voices.

- [Register to attend](#) and [contact Lucy Reynolds](#)

ScotPHN Contact:

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- [ScotPHN website](#)

Take care

Public Health Scotland- ScotPHN Team

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