

Issued to support Child Protection Committees and partners with up to date information on child protection issues.

Welcome to Issue 65 of Keeping Connected.

Following the webinar led by Dr. Alex McTier Evidence and Evaluation Specialist at CELCIS on 14th July on the findings from interviews with 7 Scottish local authority areas and analysis of wider national data and evidence to help explain divergent trends, I am delighted to share that this report has now been published on the CELCIS website (Item 1). This report offers interesting insights into some local areas contextual factors in responding children and families during Covid-19.

I would also draw your attention to Item 3 the latest update from the Child Protection Improvement programme, which offers details of the various recent work stream activity.

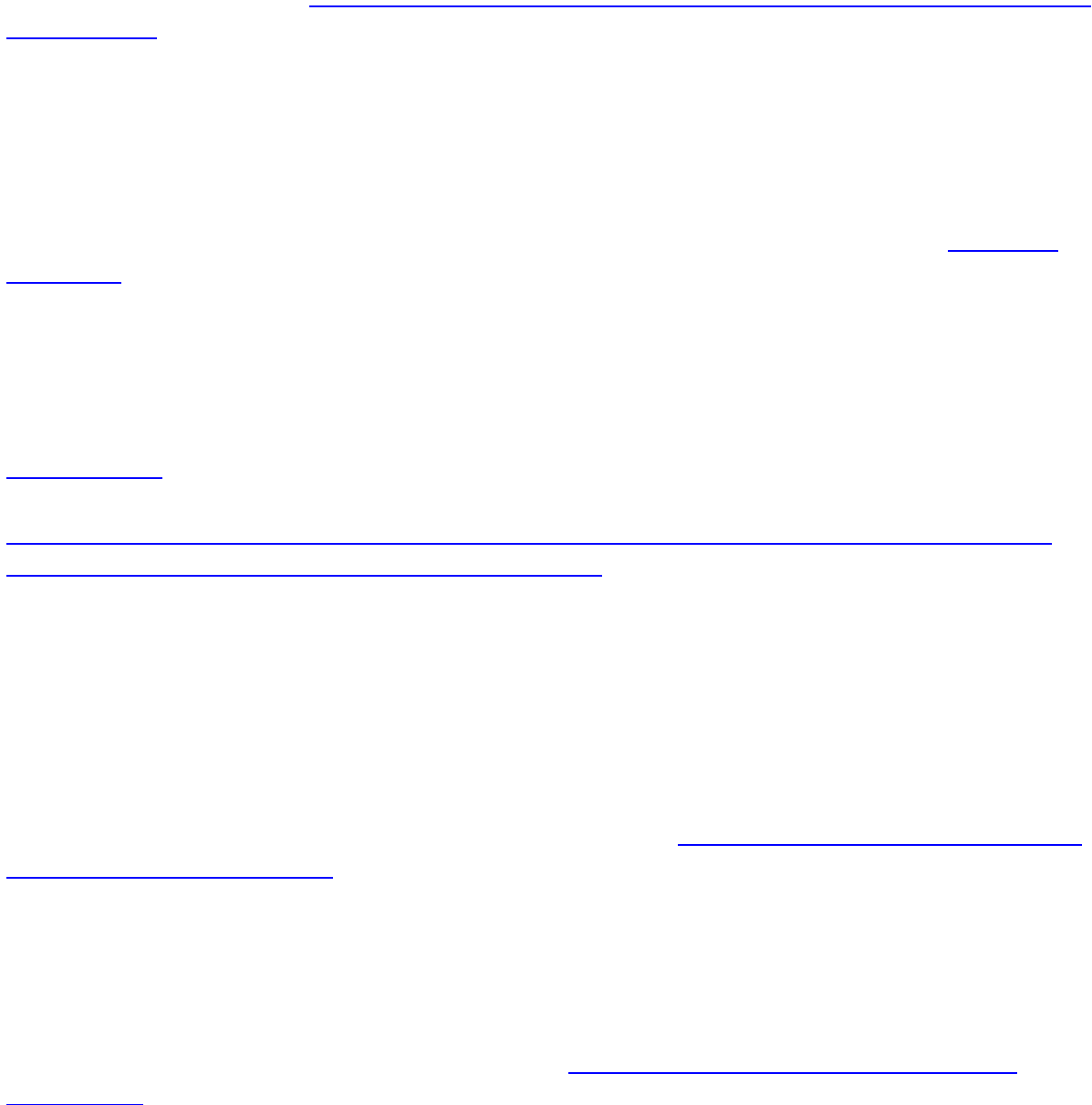
Please note we will continue with fortnightly publication of Keeping Connected over the summer holiday period.

Keep safe.

Alan Small CPCScotland Chair

This report was prepared by CELCIS in collaboration with local authorities and stakeholders in Scotland to inform the Scottish Government Children and Families Collective Leadership Group's consideration of the impact of COVID-19 on children and families.

The weekly SOLACE data return provided by local authorities since April 2020 continues to be a key data source in helping to understand how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted Scotland's children and young people in need of care



1. **Coronavirus: child protection system**

The Department for Education (DfE) has published the latest data (wave 25) on the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on children's social care in England.

which started in 2018 and will run until 2023. As part of this, the UK Government's Department for Education, Department of Health and Social Care and NHS England have selected test areas where mental health support teams work in schools and further education colleges to improve early intervention and access to support, and promote good mental health and wellbeing for all children and young people.

6. Coronavirus Mitigation Measures Among Children and Young People

A summary of the evidence base on the COVID-19 mitigation measures aimed at children and young people in Scotland.

Read the summary here: [Coronavirus Mitigation Measures Among Children and Young People](#)

7. Cyber Scotland Bulletin

This month's Bulletin includes the NSPCC Report Remove tool designed to help young people under 18 remove sexual images of themselves online. [July 2021 – Cyber Scotland](#)

8. Updated early learning and childcare statutory Guidance

The Scottish Government have published updated [early learning and childcare \(ELC\) statutory guidance](#). Information on the updated guidance is set out in [this letter to all ELC childcare providers](#).

The guidance applies from 1 August 2021 and replaces previous guidance. Statutory guidance was originally published in 2014 and between December 2019 and March 2020, the Scottish Government ran a consultation on an updated version.

Most of the changes in the new guidance reflect previously announced legislative and policy developments since 2014. Following feedback from stakeholders, changes have also been made to make the guidance clearer and more streamlined.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact ELCPartnershipForum@gov.scot

For Children Families and Communities

9. Child Disability Payment Scheme Pilot

The Scottish Government has announced that the Child Disability Payment scheme, which will replace the UK Government's Disability Living Allowance for children, will be open for applications in Dundee City, Perth and Kinross and the Western Isles as part of the pilot scheme before a full rollout in autumn: <https://www.gov.scot/news/child-disability-payment-pilot-opens-for-new->

[applications/](#)

10. Child protection in sport: information for parents

The NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) has updated the information for parents on its website. Information provided includes: speaking out about
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Listen to the podcast: [Episode 40:](#) _____

to address the assessment and support needs of disabled children for whom there is no evidence of neglect or abuse.

Read the news story: _____
