

Safeguarding Updates

Information	Link
<p>Safeguarding allegations Source: Department for Culture, Media and Sport Date published: 24 September 2024</p> <p>The Department for Culture, Media and Sport has created a safeguarding tool for charities on handling allegations of abuse. The tool aims to support charities in England with handling the reporting of safeguarding allegations about the behaviour or actions of a person in their charity.</p>	<p>Access the tool: Guidance on handling safeguarding allegations in a charity</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > How to deal with allegations of abuse</p>
<p>Domestic and sexual abuse Source: Department of Justice Date published: 25 September 2024</p> <p>The Department of Justice and the Department of Health have published a Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategy for Northern Ireland. The seven-year strategy is designed around the five pillars of partnership, prevention, children and young people, support and provision, and justice. Pillar three on children and young people sets out actions and outcomes on: the prevention of domestic and/or sexual abuse; ensuring children and young people with experience of abuse are seen and heard; ensuring they can access services and support to recover from abuse; and helping children to understand consent and healthy relationships.</p>	<p>Read the news story: Domestic and sexual abuse strategy launched</p> <p>Read the report: Domestic and sexual abuse strategy 2024-2031</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Protecting children from sexual abuse</p>
<p>Violence against women and girls Source: Home Office Date published: 19 September 2024</p> <p>The Home Office has announced new measures to strengthen the police's response to tackling violence against women and girls in England and Wales. The measures include: a pilot placing domestic abuse specialists in 999 control rooms to advise on risk assessments; and the launch of the new domestic abuse protection order pilot. The measures reinforce the Government's commitment to addressing the root causes of violence, which include supporting schools in teaching children about healthy relationships, respect and consent.</p>	<p>Read the news story: New measures set out to combat violence against women and girls</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Protecting children from domestic abuse</p>
<p>Multi-agency working Source: Care Inspectorate Wales Date published: 19 September 2024</p> <p>Care Inspectorate Wales, His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services, Healthcare Inspectorate Wales and Estyn have published a review of the multi-agency response to abuse and neglect of children in Wales. Based on joint inspections undertaken in the six regional safeguarding board areas between 2019 and 2024, the report looks at the effectiveness of partnership working; the work of individual agencies across Wales; and areas of child protection that need improvement. Key findings include: a strong safeguarding culture and a willingness to work effectively across agencies; and some systemic issues, with differing IT systems causing delays communicating information across multi-agency partners.</p>	<p>Read the news story: Inspection report for child protection in Wales published</p> <p>Read the report: Overview report: joint inspection of child protection arrangements: 2019-2024</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Child protection system in Wales</p>

<p>Child mental health services Source: Education Policy Institute Date published: 24 September 2024</p> <p>The Education Policy Institute has published a report on the availability of non-specialist mental health services for children and young people in England. Key findings include: variation across the country in the range of mental health support services delivered outside of NHS settings; no clear link between the level of need and the range of support available; and a lack of targeted services for underserved groups including LGBTQ+ young people and those from ethnic minority groups. The report recommends that the Department for Health and Social Care commissions research exploring the existence, quality and accessibility of non-specialist mental health services.</p>	<p>Read the report: Non-specialist mental health support for young people in England</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Child mental health</p>
<p>Child mental health: Northern Ireland Source: Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland Date published: 19 September 2024</p> <p>The Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland (SBNI) has published a mental health learning and development framework for member agencies, partners and other organisations that deliver services to children, young people and parents. The framework aims to contribute to the improvement in recognition and support for children, young people and their families affected by reduced psychological and emotional wellbeing. It identifies different levels of knowledge and training required by staff and volunteers depending on their role and responsibilities.</p>	<p>Access the framework: Learning and development framework: mental health</p>
<p>Children in care: corporate parenting Source: Care Inspectorate Date published: 23 September 2024</p> <p>The Care Inspectorate has published a three-year corporate parenting plan to support care experienced children and young people in Scotland. The plan sets out commitments and priority actions for the Care Inspectorate to meet their obligations as corporate parents. Key commitments include: promoting, upholding, and fulfilling children’s rights for all connected by their work; strengthening participation and equalities practice to support care experienced individuals; and providing flexible and supportive development and volunteering opportunities.</p>	<p>Read the plan: Children’s rights, care experience and corporate parenting plan 2024-2027</p>
<p>Children in care: Scotland Source: Scottish Government Date published: 19 September 2024</p> <p>The Scottish Government has published a report on progress made towards improving the experiences and outcomes of children, young people and families with care experience in Scotland. The report provides updates on the commitments outlined in the 2022 Promise implementation plan. Key updates include: the commitment to a care leaver payment; the introduction of the Bairns’ Hoose Pathfinders and the Children (Care and Justice) Act 2024; and the roll out of trauma informed training.</p>	<p>Read the report: Keeping The Promise to our children, young people and families: progress update 2024</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Children in care</p>

Unaccompanied asylum-seeking children

Source: JustRight Scotland

Date published: 18 September 2024

JustRight Scotland has published a report on the obstacles that age disputed unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people face in Scotland. The report uses evidence from local authorities and organisations which offer support to young asylum-seekers who are initially assessed and treated as adults when they enter the UK. Barriers to accessing support include delays in safeguarding referrals and inconsistent age assessments. Recommendations include: the Home Office should limit the classification of young people as adults to only exceptional cases; the Scottish Government should review and update age assessment guidance; and Scottish local authorities should respond promptly to referrals and maintain accurate records of age-disputed individuals.

Read the report: [Unlocking support: age disputed young people in Scotland](#)

Hope not harm conference

This conference, organised by the Marie Collins Foundation, takes place on 06 and 07 November 2024 in London. The conference is on the topic of technology-assisted child sexual abuse.

Find out more: [Marie Collins Foundation](#)