

Agenda Item 13

Overview: National Publications



Falkirk Integration Joint Board Clinical and Care Governance Committee

26 August 2022

Overview: National Publications

For consideration and comment

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of national reports relevant to the Health and Social Care Partnership that have been published since the previous Clinical and Care Governance Committee (CCGC) meeting held on 20 May 2022.
- 1.2 A total of 9 reports have been published.

2. Recommendations

The Clinical and Care Governance Committee is asked to:

- 2.1 consider and comment on the content of this report.

3. Background

- 3.1 Since June 2020, the Clinical and Care Governance Committee has received an overview report noting where there have been publications of relevance to the HSCP. This arrangement recognised that national publications may need to be considered across a wide range of settings (such as the IJB or Audit Committee) dependent on the nature of the report and the associated recommendations.
- 3.2 Where reports are not considered by the IJB or Audit Committee, a summary of the reports will be included in the overview report.
- 3.3 Committee members can highlight if they think that more detailed consideration of any report is required, and if so, what the appropriate reporting route would be.

4. National Reports

- 4.1 The table below lists the national reports that have been issued since the last meeting of the CCGC.

Author	Title of Report	Publication Date
Scottish Government	Midpoint Progress Report for Neurological Care and Support in Scotland: a Framework for Action 2020-2025	13 July 2022
Mental Welfare Commission	Characteristics of compulsory treatment orders in Scotland – an analysis to inform future law reform	28 June 2022
Mental Welfare Commission	Supervising private welfare guardians and welfare powers of attorney: good practice guide	22 June 2022
Social Work Scotland	Setting the Bar report	1 June 2022
Scottish Government	National Guidance for Adult Protection Committees for conducting Learning Reviews	26 May 2022
Shared Care Scotland	Rethinking personalised short breaks for unpaid carers during COVID-19	24 May 2022
Healthcare Improvement Scotland	Infection prevention and control (IPC) standards	16 May 2022
Coalition of Carers in Scotland	Equal, Expert and Valued Report 2022	April 2022
Scottish Government	Health and Social Care Standards: my support, my life	31 Mar 2022

4.2 [Midpoint Progress Report for Neurological Care and Support in Scotland: A Framework for Action 2020-2025](#)

The Framework has a vision to ensure everyone with a neurological condition can access the care and support they need to live their life well, on their own terms. The Midpoint Progress Report marks the halfway point in the 5-year Framework. It highlights key achievements, challenges and future priorities for improving neurology services as we continue to implement the Framework.

4.3 [Characteristics of Compulsory Treatment Orders in Scotland – An Analysis to Inform Future Law Reform](#)

The research report analyses the growing use of compulsory mental health treatment for people who are very unwell and calls for changes to the system. The report has been produced for the Scottish Mental Health Law Review.

4.4 The report focuses on compulsory treatment orders (CTOs) which are one legal mechanism for providing care and treatment against the person's will to someone who is very unwell. It confirms that, as more people are being treated against their will every year, the way in which that treatment takes place has also changed, with a shift towards treatment in the community (living at home) rather than in hospital.

4.5 The research report was submitted to the Scottish Mental Health Law Review team on 31 May 2022. The Mental Welfare Commission recommendations to the team include asking them to look at whether duties to review detention and compulsion are currently being met, and to consider strengthening the law related to safeguards in how they are used.

4.6 [Supervision Private Welfare Guardians and Welfare Powers of Attorney Good Practice Guide](#)

The guidance was originally published in 2011 and revised and updated in April 2022. A private welfare guardian is often a family member or friend. Welfare guardianship orders provide the means to protect adults who lack capacity to make decisions regarding their welfare, or to take actions for themselves.

4.7 The Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000 gives responsibility to local authorities to support and supervise private welfare guardians. The intention is that guardianship supervisors ensure that private welfare guardians understand their new role, follow the principles of the Act, and access the support they need to make proxy decisions.

4.8 [Setting the Bar Report](#)

The report was commissioned by Social Work Scotland and completed by independent researchers. It looks at the capacity of Scotland's social work workforce and aimed to understand if Scotland has enough social workers to work with people in the way they're trained to, and much like classroom size, build evidence to work out what 'enough' cases is for a social work professional.

4.9 It draws on existing evidence and two surveys, one of which was responded to by just over 1,500 social work professionals, nearly 25% of the 6,000 which works in the public sector.

- 4.10 The experiences professionals shared shows that social work is facing real challenges in rising demand and a lack of understanding of the profession, made worse by the pandemic, cuts to budgets and increased administrative burdens. The report notes that social workers across the profession are really committed to the values of social work, and the people they work with despite these challenges. The report sets out some of the work currently in progress to address the issues facing social work. Locally the issues are being considered by the Chief Social Work Officer and the HSCP Senior Leadership Team.
- 4.11 [National Guidance for Adult Protection Committees for Conducting Learning Reviews](#)
This guidance provides updated and revised information to take account of practice and policy developments and replaces previous guidance. Further information is included in the Overview: Oversight Arrangements as a separate agenda item.
- 4.12 [Rethinking Personalised Short Breaks for Unpaid Carers During COVID-19](#)
Shared Care Scotland commissioned research on the impact of the Short Breaks Fund Time to Live (TtL) grant scheme on unpaid adult carers' personal outcomes during the COVID-19 pandemic. Evidence about barriers and enablers for carers in accessing TtL grants and the experience of carer centres as delivery partners of managing TtL grants during the pandemic was also gathered.
- 4.13 The report explores key areas in relation to the impact of TtL short breaks on carers' personal outcomes and sustainability of the breaks. The report also examines the processes that underpin these breaks, including how centres promote TtL funding and how they identify and record outcomes. It shows that taking a person-centred approach – supporting carers to have choice and control in short breaks – can improve their financial, physical and mental wellbeing, and provide similar benefits to those they care for.
- 4.14 [Infection Prevention and Control \(IPC\) Standards](#)
Infection prevention and control (IPC) is critical to keeping people safe when they are receiving health and social care. Effective IPC can help reduce the risk of infection and ensure the safety of people receiving care, staff and visitors. IPC is integral to quality health and social care delivery because anyone is at risk of developing an infection in these settings.
- 4.15 Good IPC practice can help to reduce the prevalence of infections that are associated with the delivery of care in hospitals, long-term care facilities (including care homes) and other care settings (such as ambulances, prisons, hospices and independent healthcare facilities).
- 4.16 Healthcare Improvement Scotland has developed IPC standards to act as key component in the drive to reduce the risk of infections in health and social care in Scotland. The standards cover the following areas:

- leadership and governance
- education and training
- communication
- assurance and monitoring systems
- optimising antimicrobial use
- infection prevention and control policies, procedures and guidance
- clean and safe care equipment
- the built environment, and
- acquisition and provision of equipment.

4.17 Locally the Care Home Assurance group will have a role to oversee implementation and develop assurance processes to monitor the standards.

4.18 [Equal, Expert and Valued Report 2022](#)

This is the annual scoping report of the experience of carer reps on IJBs over the last year, which scopes the impact of this involvement and makes recommendations to further enhance engagement with carer reps. The report also provides background on the Carers Collaborative Network and peer support for carer reps on IJBs.

4.19 Locally the HSCP participated in the national carer engagement project. This project is a collaboration between the Coalition of Carers, Carers Scotland, Falkirk Carers Centre and HSCP Carers Lead, and aims to support the recruitment, training and on-going support of Carer Representatives. An update on this work was reported to the CCGC on 20 May 2022 and in the Chief Officer report to the IJB on 10 June 2022.

4.20 [Health and Social Care Standards: My Support, My Life](#)

The standards were published in 2017 and set out what people should expect when experiencing health, social care or social work services in Scotland. In response to a national public consultation, there was support for strengthening the standards around visiting for adults living in care homes. This was seen as a significant milestone in the delivery of Anne's Law.

4.21 An addition to the standards was published on 31 March 2022 to include two new standards:

4.22

- If I am an adult living in a care home and restrictions to routine visiting are needed to prevent infection, I can nominate relatives/friends (and substitutes) to visit me. My nominated relatives/friends will be supported by the care home to see me in person day-to-day and to be directly involved in providing my care and support if that is what I want.
- If I am an adult living in a care home, I can nominate relatives/friends (and substitutes), who will be supported by the care home to be directly involved in providing my day-to-day care and support if that is what I want.

- 4.23 These new Standards have been developed with sector representatives including Scottish Care as well as families of care home relatives. They set out the clear expectation that people living in care homes should have the right to see someone who is dear to them, even during an outbreak, and be able to name a person or persons who can directly participate in meeting their care needs.
- 4.24 The Care Inspectorate will consider how care service providers are upholding the standards in relation to registering, inspecting and supporting care services. Guidance to support implementation has also been developed by the Care Inspectorate. Locally the Care Home Assurance group will have a role to oversee implementation and develop assurance processes to monitor the standards.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 This report provides a summary of relevant national reports which have been published since the last Committee meeting.

Resource Implications

There are no resource implications arising from this report.

Impact on IJB Outcomes and Priorities

The IJB is committed to delivering on the outcomes and principles set out in the Strategic Plan. This requires effective planning for services, appropriate governance structures and assurance that safe, high-quality services are in place. The national reports provide standards and recommendations that the IJB can assess itself against to ensure delivery of the Strategic Plan.

Directions

A new Direction or amendment to an existing Direction is not required as a result of the recommendations of this report.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no specific legal implications arising from this report. The key risk implications relate to the potential risk of harm to service users, financial risk and reputational risk arising from failure to consider the findings of national reports.

Consultation

There are no consultation requirements arising from this report.

Equalities Assessment

There are no equality implications arising from this report.

6. Report Author

6.1 Suzanne Thomson, Senior Service Manager

7. List of Background Papers

7.1 Reports as noted

8. Appendices

None