

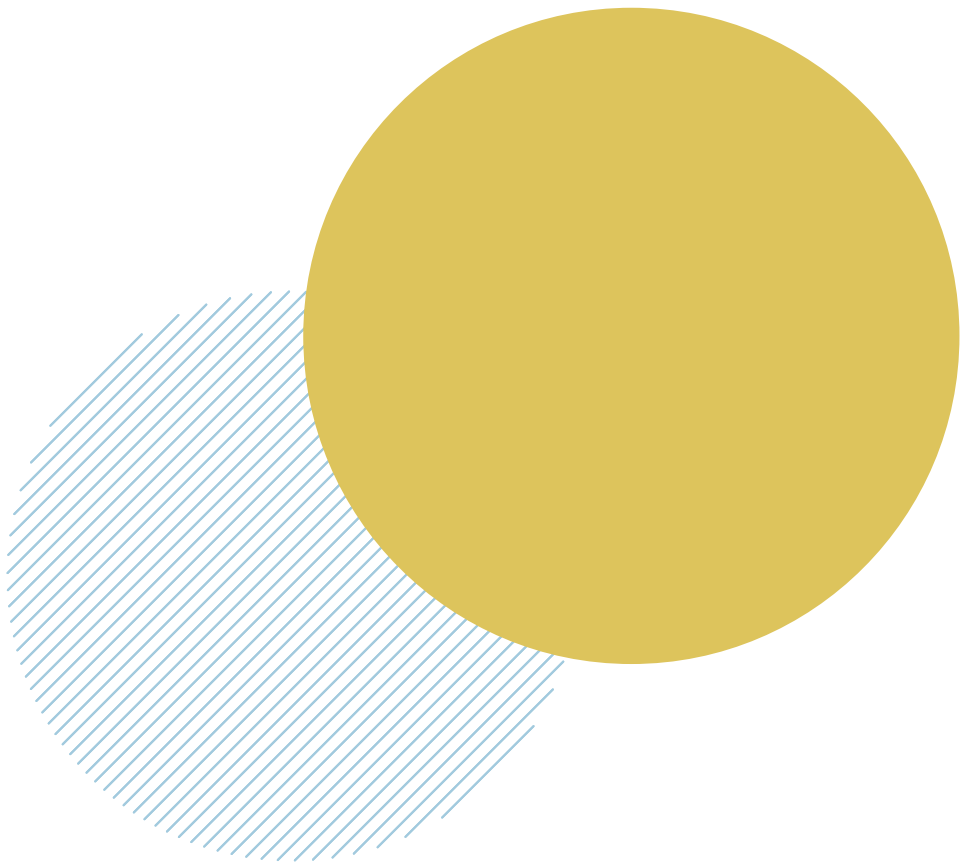


Our plans for 2021-22

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Iriss works with people, workers and organisations in social work and social care to help them use knowledge and innovation to make positive change happen. Our vision is for a Scotland where people and communities are supported to live the best life possible.

Here we set out the areas we will focus on in 2021-22.



Adult Support and Protection (ASP)

Good decision-making to support adults at risk of harm is complex and critical, requiring a foundation of high quality information and data. We will work with ASP colleagues to:

- Design a minimum dataset to improve data collection and quality
- Provide analysis of the data and information collected
- Produce relevant ASP learning materials and courses
- Support the development of the ASP Research Network

This work will help professionals to use data and information more effectively for decision making and service design.

Learning from COVID-19

COVID-19 has had a major impact on everyone in social work and social care. We will work with partners to:

- Host a series of partner workshops throughout the year to share and showcase learning from lockdown
- Provide research support for people and organisations who want to review their response to COVID-19
- Make space for people to think through and reflect on their experiences and what we need to keep as we move into recovery
- Develop a suite of resources based on these discussions and reflections, capturing what we need to learn from the impact and response to COVID-19

Building knowledge in social work and social care

Easy access to good quality learning resources is important for social work and social care practitioners for learning, development and positive change. We will:

- Produce our **Insights series** of evidence summaries which provides you with practice implications on key issues in social work and social care
- Broadcast our **Iriss.fm podcast** which highlights learning from research, projects and events across social work and social care
- Continue our **Evidence Search and Summary Service (ESSS)** – which supports you to find and use evidence for improving practice, decision – making and service design
- We will review our offers during the year and would appreciate your views and experiences of using Insights, ESSS and Iriss.fm to help us improve these for the future

Commissioning for people and purpose

The way that social care is planned, purchased, organised and designed has a major impact on people's experiences of using support. These factors also affect workers and practitioners and their ability to do their best work. To drive the major change required in this complex and important area we will:

- Work with the **Coalition of Care and Support Providers (CCPS)** and other partners to provide tailored support to groups or organisations looking for new approaches to commissioning social care
- Develop an accessible, relevant and practical online course on ethical commissioning

Building collaboration

Effective collaboration is needed to ensure people get the support they need easily when they need it; however not everyone in social work and social care has the skills and knowledge to collaborate effectively. This year we will:

- Work with a small group of providers to develop their approach to collaboration at both worker and contract level across their organisations

Supporting innovation

Care at Home is a crucial social care support for many people who choose to stay in their own homes. The environment for this kind of support is, however, increasingly challenging with pressures increasing on funding, workforce and support design. To explore approaches to reform in this area we will:

- Draw on successful work from other areas to review the evidence on models of care at home
- Support innovation in care at home with interested providers and local authority staff, drawing on successful work in other countries
- Develop guides and resources to support others working in this area

Changing the practice environment

It's difficult for practitioners to do good work when the system is working against them. The complex, interrelated parts of social care and social work such as processes, organisations, culture, people, behaviours, relationships, bureaucracy and ways of working ('the system') are the foundations of whether good work can be done; and quality support can be provided. This year we will:

- Work with interested organisations, or groups of organisations keen to change their system for the better
- Share our learning about practical systems change in social work and social care

Digital solutions

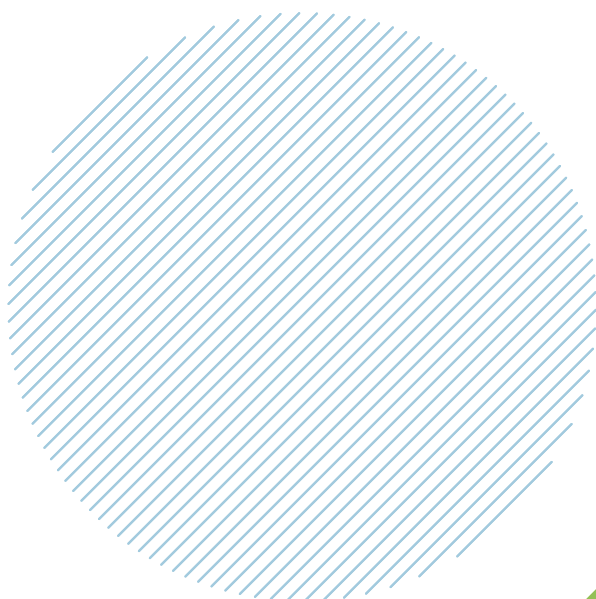
The experience of COVID-19 has shown us that we can adopt digital solutions at pace and at scale. This year we will:

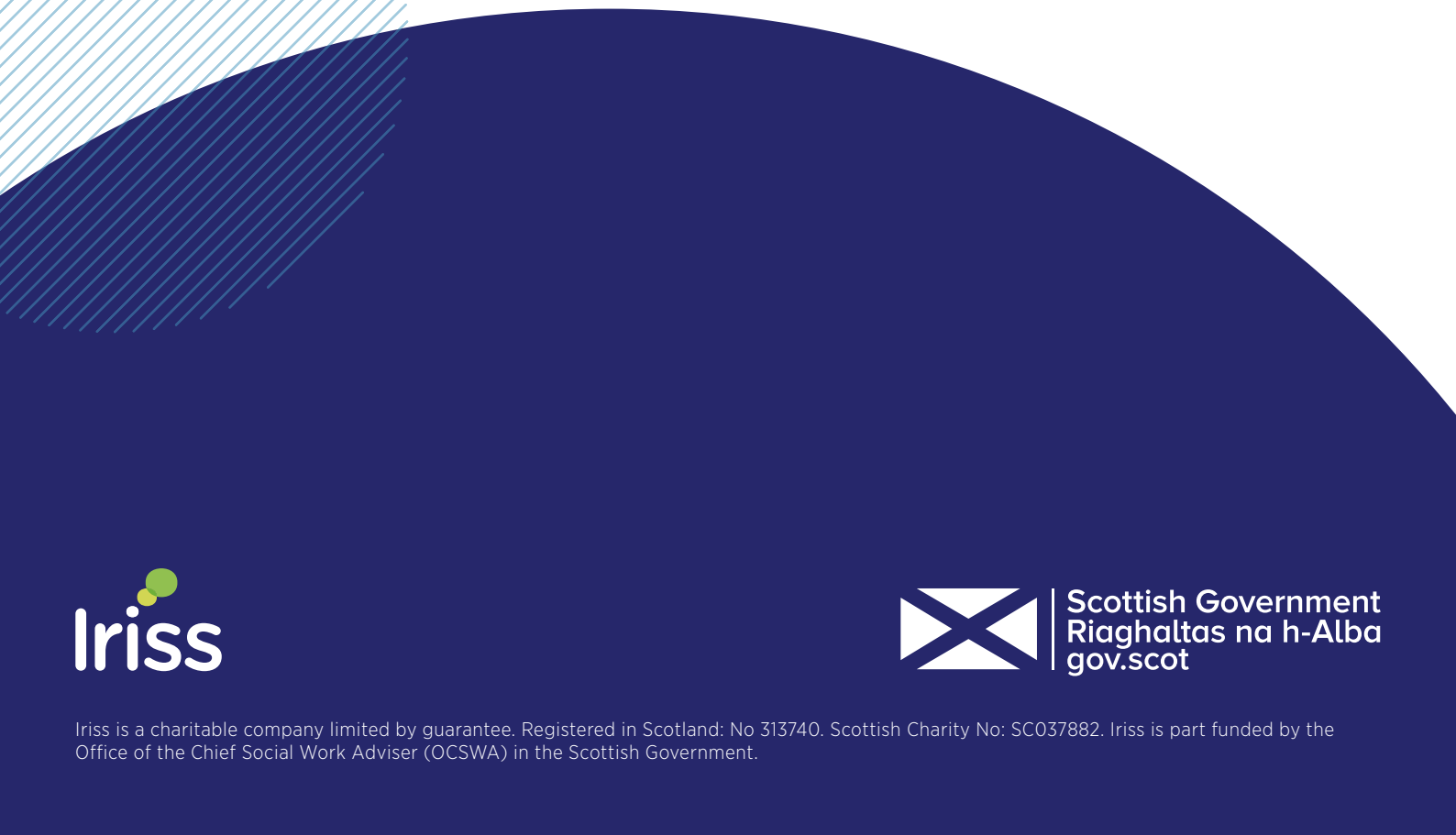
- Provide ongoing support to the NHS Near Me team as they embed Near Me video consulting across social work and social care
- Use our expertise and skills to support organisations to use digital for learning and innovation

Get in touch

Please get in touch with us if you are interested in partnerships, new projects or simply to tell us what you think! We would love to hear from you.

enquiries@iriss.org.uk





Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
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