

Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020

What do you need to know?

30 Sept 2024

- New powers for local authorities and integration joint boards to make referrals to Disclosure Scotland. These powers will be available in certain circumstances, for example, during formal child and adult protection investigations where local authorities find evidence of harm of vulnerable people. This provision will enhance safeguarding, particularly in a self-directed support environment, where there is often no employer to make a referral.

1 April 2025

- The introduction of simplified disclosure products and people having more control over their information.
- An individualised approach to the disclosure of childhood offending and rights of review for convictions disclosed, to enhance fairness and proportionality.
- The Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme becoming mandatory for those carrying out regulated roles with children and protected adults.

Late 2025

Disclosure Scotland will have the ability to impose conditions on Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme members who are under consideration for listing. We have postponed implementation of this power to:

- further engage with stakeholders, such as professional regulatory bodies (who have similar powers within their sectors), to ensure that our ability to impose conditions is robust, proportionate and integrates within the wider safeguarding landscape
- provide you, our stakeholders and customers, with time to prepare for the changes required to adhere to conditions applied on scheme members under consideration for listing

Conditions will not be applied in every case. These will only be applied where it is necessary to safeguard vulnerable groups. We will advise on the exact date for this coming into force as soon as possible.

1 April 2026

- Lifetime membership of the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme will be replaced by time-limited scheme membership, with renewal required every five years. We will engage with stakeholders further to understand what is required for the transition of existing scheme members to time-limited membership.
- We will continue our work on implementation in a collaborative manner and with our stakeholders' participation informing our product design. Further details on transitional arrangements will be provided as soon as possible.

What can you do now?

By law, Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme members need to tell Disclosure Scotland if their personal details have changed. By informing us, you will ensure that Disclosure Scotland holds accurate address and contact information for PVG scheme members. For information on how to update your PVG details, timescales and legal requirements please visit our [website](#).

To ensure compliance with data protection legislation, organisations should notify Disclosure Scotland when a PVG scheme member stops doing regulated work with them. To do this, please email dsupdate@disclosurescotland.gov.scot with: the individual's name, date of birth and PVG number

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