

Here is the brief for Wednesday 4 August 2021.

**Life 'beyond zero'** Following yesterday's announcement from the Scottish Government, we know many of you have questions regarding how the changes to come into effect on Monday 9 August will impact on the workplace, particularly as regards physical distancing and self-isolation. We are awaiting further guidance and will share this with you as soon as we are able. Until then, please keep following all the existing policies and guidance.

**COVID-19 vaccination programme** The JCVI has today recommended that 16- and 17-year-olds be offered a first dose of COVID-19 vaccine. The UK government has accepted the recommendations and the Scottish Government have indicated they will follow suit. There will be more information to come as this is incorporated into the local vaccination programme.

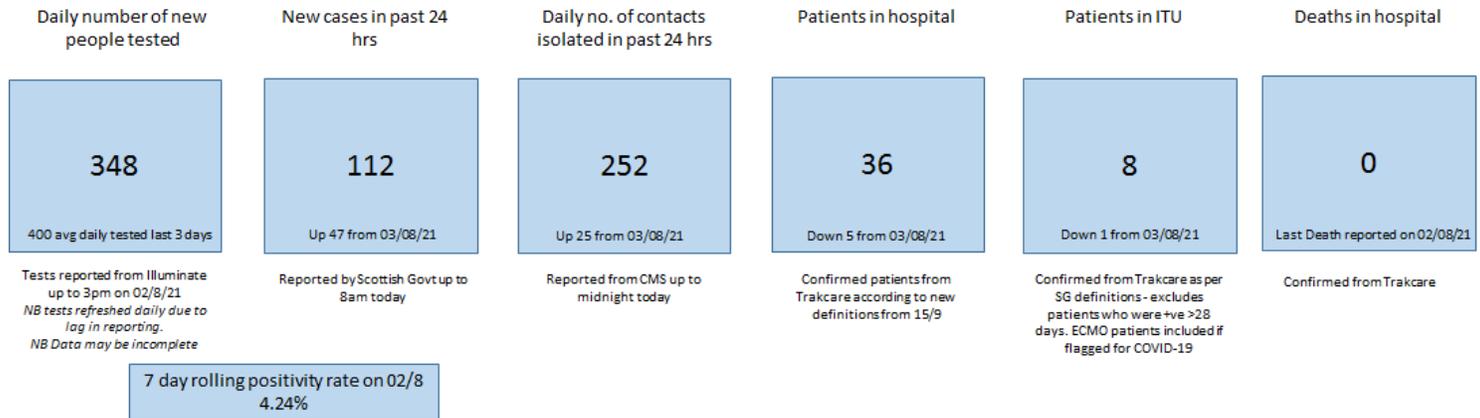
**Calling all Orthoptists!** Your professional registration matters – don't let it lapse! The HCPC registration period is now open for Orthoptists, with a renewal deadline of **31 August 2021**. Details of other HCPC professions and their registration windows are as follows:

Profession	Renewal open	Renewal deadline
Orthoptists	1 June 2021	31 August 2021
Paramedics	1 June 2021	31 August 2021
Clinical scientists	1 July 2021	30 September 2021
Prosthetists / orthotists	1 July 2021	30 September 2021
Speech and language therapists	1 July 2021	30 September 2021
Occupational therapists	1 August 2021	31 October 2021
Biomedical scientists	1 September 2021	30 November 2021
Radiographers	1 December 2021	28 February 2022
Physiotherapists	1 February 2022	30 April 2022
Arts therapists	1 March 2022	31 May 2022
Dietitians	1 April 2022	30 June 2022
Chiropodists / podiatrists	1 May 2022	31 July 2022
Hearing aid dispensers	1 May 2022	31 July 2022
Operating department practitioners	1 September 2022	30 November 2022

Your professional registration is your responsibility. If you are registered with the HCPC, NMC, or GMC - and your account was registered with your previous NHS.net email address - please ensure your contact details are updated as a matter of urgency. Important information from these bodies, including dates for renewal, may be missed otherwise. Please remember these e-mails may also go into Junk/Spam folders

so check those regularly too. A lapsed professional registration will impact on your ability to work and will most likely result in a disciplinary hearing in line with NHSScotland Workforce policies.

**Grampian data** Here is the local update for today, including the 7-day rolling positivity rate. As a reminder, this rate is arrived at by dividing the number of positive tests in the past 7 days by the number of tests carried out in the past 7 days. Repeat tests are included in both categories. The figure for the “daily number of new people tested” is only for the number of tests for people who have not been tested previously.



A national update is available on the [Public Health Scotland daily dashboard](#).

**We Care programme – wellbeing webinars** A series of webinars have been arranged by the team at the National Wellbeing Hub, to support people working in health & social care to manage their own mental and emotional wellbeing. [The full programme is available online, along with booking details](#). The hub team are also working to make recordings of previous webinars available through their website, to allow you to view and benefit from them at a time of your choosing.

**Child bereavement support workers** Two bereavement support workers (jointly funded by The ARCHIE Foundation and the Grampian Child Bereavement Network) are now working across NHS Grampian hospitals.

Carolyn Crews and Jane Watson are available to support families with children up to the age of 18, who have someone they love going through palliative care or have died in hospital. They can attend the hospital and ward with resources like story books, workbooks and information books for parents/carers. This support can be carried forward into the family home if required.

The referral process is quick and easy. First, confirm with the family that they consent to their details being passed on, then contact Carolyn and Jane on 01224 550144 or by email on [gcbn@archie.org](mailto:gcbn@archie.org) with the below information,

- Name and relation of the person who has died or is dying
- Name and age of children
- Cause of death
- Contact details for the parent/carer

Carolyn and Jane work on a jobshare basis, with one of them always available Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm. You can also use the contact details about for any queries you have about the service.

**NHS Grampian website** Planned maintenance on the NHS Grampian website means it will be inaccessible for approximately one hour from 10.30am tomorrow (Thursday).

**Tune of the day** Hannah Davidson put forward a number of suggestions for today's tune - we've plumped for a new one on us, and probably lots of you too – [Now is the Time by Jade Bird](#). Much as we love celebrating the classics (and trust me, we will keep doing so!) who are lesser-known artists we should be sharing? What about those lesser-known tunes – B-sides, album tracks – we're here for all of them.

**Get in touch!** If you've got a question, an item to share with people working in health & social care, or just want to suggest a tune of the day, we want to hear from you! Drop us a line via [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot).