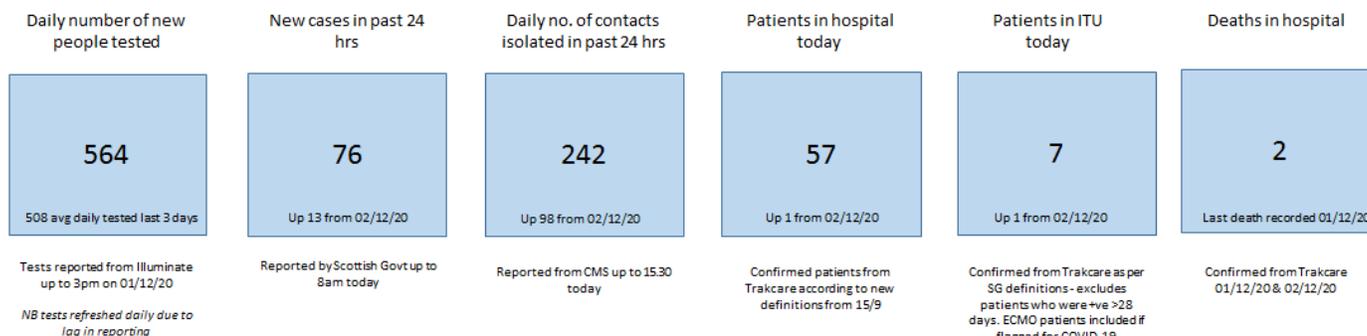


Here is the brief for Thursday 3 December 2020.

Grampian figures Today's local figures are shown below. If you are interested in the situation elsewhere in Scotland, click [here](#) to see all the data published by Public Health Scotland.



COVID-19 vaccine We know you will have lots of questions about the vaccine and will be seeing widespread coverage of the national roll out of the vaccine. This is a really fast-moving situation and locally we are working extremely hard on bringing together all the relevant information you need. As soon as details are confirmed they will be circulated in this brief. You may be interested to read the Cabinet Secretary's update to the Scottish Parliament earlier today, available [here](#).

What changes – and what stays the same? Safer Workplaces and working at home A significant amount of work has gone into – is still going into – keeping our workplaces as safe as possible. The approval of a COVID-19 vaccine is a huge development, but it does not remove the need for these measures. Physical distancing – and everything that comes with it – will be with us in our workplaces for some time to come. COVID-19 remains very infectious and will take any small opportunity to spread. To the teams working in any clinical area, stick with it. You are doing so well, so keep focused and be open to (gently) reminding any colleagues who might let their guard drop – or being (gently) reminded yourself.

Many hundreds of you promptly made the switch to working at home in March. You may not have expected to still be there nine months later! For some it will have been a revelation about what is possible, for others it may not have been such a positive experience. It remains the case that if you can work at home, you should. If you need support to do this, or want to discuss other issues about your workplace, revisit your [Safer Workplaces risk assessment](#) with your line manager.

Self Isolation support – survey pilot We are looking for your help to pilot a short, online questionnaire, surveying anyone who has had to self-isolate due to COVID-19. The purpose of it is to gather information that will help us to support people as much as possible through their period of self-isolation. To take part in the pilot please click here: <https://bit.ly/33lsW7w>. We would also appreciate if staff could share this link with anyone they know who have self-isolated. Many thanks for your help!

Reminder - Face fit testing – mask changes and new testing required Thanks to everyone who has already been in touch to book their place and update/complete their face fit testing. Please ensure you have book your place as soon as possible.

Airborne precautions are required when Aerosol Generating Procedures are being undertaken for medium (amber) and high-risk (red) pathways, as well as for patients who have other infectious agents transmitted via the droplet or airborne route. These precautions including the wearing of FFP3 masks. There are two models of FFP3 mask (3M 1863 and 3M 8833) **which will no longer be available from early 2021**. National Procurement have sourced other models of FFP3 masks which will be supplied going forward (Alpha Solway H and + series; 3M 1863+, 1873V+ and 9332+). A deadline of **24 December 2020** has been set for all NHS Grampian staff who currently only have a pass on the 3M 1863 or 3M 8833 models to be fit-tested on these other models of masks. In order to meet this deadline, additional face-fit testing resource has been put in place. In addition, our records indicate there remain a significant number of staff who have attended the Fit Test Hub since March 2020 and have not yet obtained a pass on any mask. If this is you – or if you only have a pass on the 3M 1863 OR 3M 8833 masks – please make an appointment to be retested without delay. Bookings can be made by emailing gram.face-fit-appointment-hub@nhs.scot

School Christmas holidays The Scottish Government has confirmed today there will be **no change/extension** to Christmas holiday dates already set down by local authorities. You can check the dates in your area using the following links: [Aberdeen](#), [Aberdeenshire](#), [Moray](#). Independent schools will have confirmed arrangements directly with parents.

PPE donning and doffing Now more than ever, regularly refreshing your skills on the proper way to don and doff your PPE is vital. Training is available via MS Teams, every Tuesday 11am. The sessions are open to anyone working in health & social care who require to use PPE as part of their job. You can book your place by emailing gram.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.scot

Everyone Matters Pulse Survey - results We expect publication tomorrow (4 December) of the Everyone Matters Survey Results. We will be taking time over the weekend to reflect on the results and will update you further on our organisational response on Monday. If you received the survey by email you will automatically receive links to your Directorate/ HSCP results tomorrow. If you are a manager of team where anyone received a paper survey, please ensure the results are shared with your team members. There are no team reports or action plans for this survey, only Sector/Directorate Reports and Board Reports will be produced. The national Everyone Matters Health and Social Care Staff Experience Report will also be published the same day by the Scottish Government highlighting staff experience across all Boards and HSCP's in Scotland.

Payment Arrangements During Christmas/New Year 2020/21 Detailed guidance has been prepared for managers and staff to advise of the payment arrangements that will apply for public holiday working during Christmas and New Year 2020/21. The designated Public Holidays are Friday 25 December/1 January and Monday 28 December/4 January and the guidance provides details on the payment rate for working shifts on these days or taking leave on these days. More information is available on the HR intranet page [here](#) (networked devices only).

Education recovery newsletter The latest edition of this newsletter, with information for students, learners and supporting staff, is available to read [here](#).

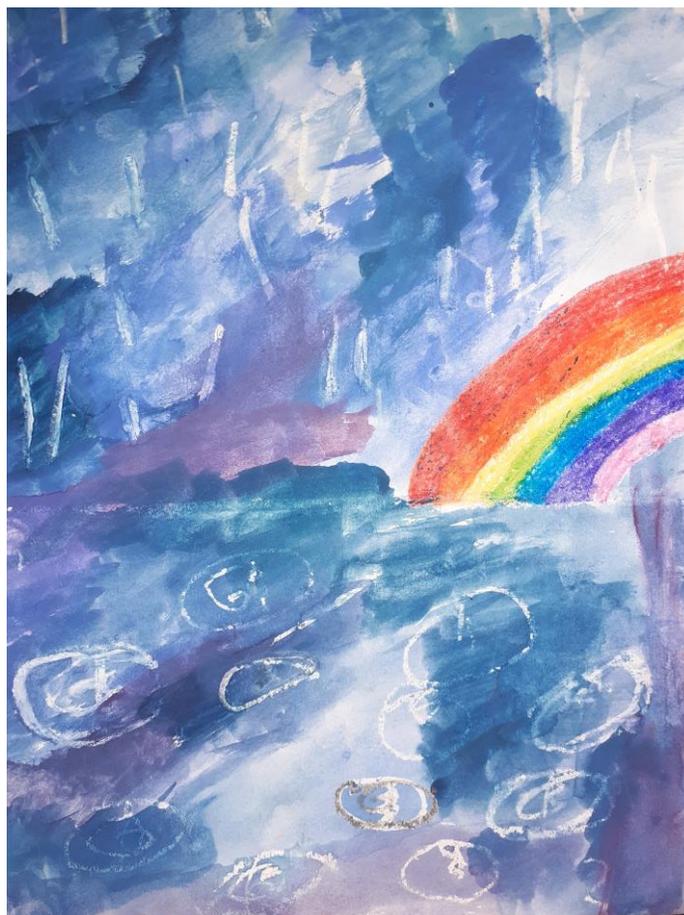
NHS Grampian website As you may have spotted, the new public facing NHS Grampian website went live today. It has been developed entirely in-house by our eHealth colleagues and a small band of dedicated 'webmasters' over the past 10 months, despite the additional pressures on IT and resources brought about by the pandemic. There is no change to the web address. Our dedicated COVID-19 website is now an integrated part of the main website – click the COVID-19 tab in the top right to access all the information you need. There is still work to do and over the coming months further refinements and additions will be made as part of phase 2 to improve the site further. If you have any general feedback, please get in touch via gram.communications@nhs.scot. Any formal requests for

updates/additions should be made using [this form](#) so they can be assessed and scheduled for action once phase 2 is completed in the New Year.

New Uniforms – are you waiting for yours? Our colleagues in the Sewing Room have a large number of uniforms waiting to be collected and they are running out of space! If uniforms have been ordered for you, they will be ready for collection within 3 to 5 days from placing the order. It is your responsibility to telephone or email the sewing room (details below) to check if/when they will be ready to collect. The orders currently awaiting collection will be returned to stock if they are not claimed/collected by **Thursday 17 December** so please don't give the Staff in the Sewing Room extra work. You can call the Sewing Room on 01224 553726 (internal extension 53726) or email them on gram.sewingservices@nhs.scot

Question of the day We are creating a Christmas playlist, which we will share (via a Spotify link) in tomorrow's brief; we want you to tell us your favourite Christmas songs. These can be modern or classic, hymns, carols, and pop tunes all welcome! To get involved just click [here](#) or copy this link into your browser: <https://www.menti.com/z43a7sdkkw>

Thought for the day Thank you to Vicki Davidson, a Heart Failure specialist nurse based in Fraserburgh, for sharing this beautiful painting by her son Max. It is his representation of the pandemic and a reminder that rainbows come through storms:



Items for the brief? If you have something you would like to be considered for inclusion in this brief, please send this to gram.communications@nhs.scot. Messages should be clearly marked as 'Daily brief – for consideration'. Please be aware that space is limited, and items are prioritised based on subject matter and relevance to all staff groups.