

Thursday 12 January 2023

Cost of Living crisis As part of our Public Health response to the cost-of-living crisis, we have now put in place a regular update process bringing together evidence on cost-of-living crisis. We are running a monthly search for published literature and reports from key groups. It was updated on 22 Dec and will continue to update monthly. Please share widely. Access to the list of evidence with links to the reports and a summary of the contents [can be found on the HiNet website here](#) so it is open to everyone.

If you, or someone you know, is struggling financially, information on sources of support is available here: [Cost of living crisis - Cost of Living Support Scotland \(campaign.gov.scot\)](#)

Hospital visiting and face masks usage We have used the NHS Grampian social media accounts today to remind the public about the importance of wearing face masks in healthcare settings, particularly when visiting friends or relatives. We hope reinforcing this message will help those of you working in clinical settings, by refreshing the public's memory. If any of you working in health & social care can assist us by sharing this message, we would be very grateful.

Domestics update You may have noticed some changes in domestic services over the last few months. 172.5 WTE temporary fixed term contracts introduced during COVID ended last September; whilst funding was agreed to recruit 77 WTE for the period October to end of March 2023, we have only filled around half those posts. Like many other departments, we've also been impacted with increased staff absence and increased demand on service provision.

We will prioritise high risk clinical areas, which means low risk clinical areas may not receive the usual frequency of cleaning. Please be assured the domestic team works as a collective group to prioritise areas and reallocate staff, whilst acknowledging the physical geographical spread of our service across the whole of the NHS Grampian estate poses many challenges. As a team we appreciate your support, understanding our team are being allocated to the greater need, which might mean your area is not receiving the service we strive to deliver. You can help us focus on the task at hand, by refraining from multiple queries to the supervisors on lack of domestic staff in areas. Regrettably, if you are work in a non-clinical area your domestic service will be very limited at present.

Foresterhill Health Campus – weekend vehicle access Starting this Saturday (14 January) and for the following five Saturdays there will be **no exit** from the Maggie's Centre entrance onto Westburn Road. Exiting the Foresterhill Health Campus will be via Cornhill Road. Vehicles will still be able to enter the site as normal. Please look out for local signage; we apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Tune of the day We have to mark the death of guitarist Jeff Beck, twice inducted into the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame, because is it even a party if [Hi Ho Silver Lining](#) hasn't been played? (EP).

If you want to request a tune, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via gram.communications@nhs.scot