

Thursday 22 December 2022

Power cut preparations The severe weather we saw at the end of 2021 and the start of this year left thousands without power for a week or more. We've already seen snowfall and cannot rule out more severe weather this winter. It is also possible planned, rolling power cuts – known as Rota Load Disconnections – may be introduced. The NHS will not be immune from the impact of these, and neither will the people our services care for. We need to make plans – now – which cover how our teams will cope if we lose power. We've prepared a factsheet on what you can do, the questions you should ask yourself, and helpful contacts. [It is available to read here](#) and is also attached to the email used to send out this brief.

Pension Recycling of Contributions (REC) for 2022/23 Annual Allowance Tax Charge On 5 October 2022 the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care wrote to NHS Scotland Boards, devolving powers to utilise local flexibilities within NHS Pension arrangements, including the possibility of 'pension recycling' to help with maintaining service delivery. An NHS Scotland scheme has been launched, achieving a consistent approach across NHS Scotland. The scheme is for eligible pension scheme members who can show a reasonable expectation of an Annual Allowance tax charge in 2022/23. The 2022 scheme is based largely on the arrangements that were available in 2019/20.

More information and the NHS Grampian REC Payment Application Form (which must be used) is [available here](#) (intranet link, networked devices only). The deadline for receipt of a REC Payment Application is **28 February 2023**.

For attention of all SAS doctors on the 2008 National Terms and Conditions of Service (Staff Grades, CMOs, SCMOs, Hospital Practitioners and Clinical Assistants) Medical Managers The Scottish Government has issued two circulars which informs NHS employers of the new contractual arrangements for the current Specialty Doctor (2022) grade as well as the introduction of the new Specialist Grade. All Specialty Doctor and Associate Specialist staff members have been sent a letter, advising them of the next steps prior to 6 January 2023. If you have not received a letter, please contact the email address below. A Short Life Working Group has been set up within NHS Grampian to progress these. All further information is available on the Medical Workforce page of the intranet and can be found here: [Pages - SASDoctors \(scot.nhs.uk\)](#) If you have any queries please email: gram.sascontracts@nhs.scot

Keep Warm, Safe, and Well – booklet translations Last week we launched our winter support booklet, packed with information to help people across Grampian stay healthy throughout the coming months. This is available as a digital pamphlet on the [NHS Grampian Winter Support website](#), with Polish, Lithuanian, Russian, Ukrainian, and Arabic translations, and a Large Print version also available there. 25,000 printed copies have been distributed to partners working across Aberdeenshire, Moray, and Aberdeen City, with a small stock held by our own Resources team.

Corporate Health and Safety Workplace Inspection e-learning module The Corporate Health & Safety Team previously delivered face-to-face training for the Workplace Inspection Module. To make this training as accessible as possible, the team have created an e-learning module to replace the face-to-face training sessions. You can now log in to Turas Learn and complete the module at your own pace (you will need a Turas log-in)

- Module 1 is available here: [Workplace health & safety inspection module : part 1 | Turas | Learn \(nhs.scot\)](#)
- Module 2 is available here: [Workplace health & safety inspection module : part 2 | Turas | Learn \(nhs.scot\)](#)

In addition, the Workplace Inspection checklist, guidance and process documents have been reviewed and are now re-published on the Corporate Health and Safety Team's [Policies, Guidelines and Documents intranet page](#).

Quality and Safety in Healthcare Event 2023: “Be Civil, Be Safe” The 2023 Quality Event will be held virtually on Wednesday 17 May 2023, from 9am to 12.30pm. More information on the programme content and registration to follow, but the call for poster abstracts is now open! This is a terrific opportunity to raise awareness of your improvement project, gain recognition, share best practice and make new contacts.

[Please click here for more information and to submit your abstract](#). The closing date for abstract submissions is Friday 24 February 2023. There will be prizes for the top three posters.

Flying Start Facilitator Update The NMAHP Practice Education team will be delivering a short refresher session for existing Flying Start Facilitators for all Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professionals. These sessions will run on Tuesday 24 January, 2-3pm and Tuesday 21 February, 2-3pm, and will be delivered via MS Teams. [Please access this link to book via TURAS](#). For any other information, please contact gram.practiceeducation@nhs.scot

Postgraduate Programme: Leading Digital Transformation in Health and Care for Scotland (PGCert, PGDip, MSc) The first Scotland-led master’s level programme: **Leading Digital Transformation in Health and Care for Scotland** is open to applicants, with a deadline of midnight on 15 January 2023. The qualification is targeted at individuals who are working within a context or role where they must drive and implement practical digital transformational change within their organisation or system. Applicants will need to show their ability to lead local digital transformation and aspire to be a systems level digital leader.

Delivered by the University of Edinburgh, and led by NHS Education for Scotland, this postgraduate programme will enhance the ability of current and future leaders to drive, deliver and embed digital transformation across health and care services in Scotland. Scottish Government funding has been provided for year 1 (PGCert) and year 2 (PGDip) **for up to 60 participants**. For those who intend to complete year 3 (MSc) funding must be provided by the candidate’s own organisation or the candidate (self-fund). [Lots more information is available on Turas Learn via this link](#).

Festive Frolics Tune of the day first, and my thanks go to Louise Whyte and all the gang in the Banff health visiting team. They are big fans of this feature (aren’t we all?) and have asked for Ed Sheeran and Elton John and [Merry Christmas](#)

Yesterday we asked whether presents are opened before or after Christmas lunch and you are firmly in the ‘before’ camp. For our final piece of festive research, we turn to the controversial topic of sprouts. Are you for them, or agin them? [Share your views here](#).

Finally, something with a *little* more scientific rigour, from our friends at the British Medical Journal. [They've published a paper](#) considering the time it takes for a cup of tea to reach the right drinking temperature in a hospital break room, and the best biscuit to enjoy alongside said cuppy (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