

Tuesday 24 May 2022

Important Workplace Pensions Information Under changes to workplace pension arrangements introduced by the UK Government, NHS Grampian (along with other employers) are required to ensure all staff who are not members of a workplace pension scheme are automatically enrolled into one and then to review this on a three yearly basis. Our original staging date for automatic enrolment was 31 May 2013 with subsequent re-enrolment exercises undertaken in May 2016 & 2019. As we are now approaching our third re-enrolment date of 31 May 2022, we are required to review the workplace pension status of our workforce. On this date, if you are not already a member of a workplace pension, we will automatically enrol you into a workplace pension if you:

- Earn £10,000 or over per annum i.e., £833.33 per month /£192 per week
- Are aged 22 or over; and
- Are under State Pension age.

The first pension deduction will be made from pay in June 2022.

If you fall into the above category will receive a letter from the HR Service Centre during June 2022, advising of NHS Grampian's intention to auto enrol you and what to do should you wish to opt out. Further detailed information is available on the NHS Pension intranet page, under [Auto Re-enrolment - May 2022](#) (networked devices only)

Retail catering - changes to opening hours/price increases Opening hours are being revised at some retail catering outlets, from Monday 30 May, as follows:

- Royal Cornhill Cafe will close at 2.30pm on weekdays
- Aroma (ARI Concourse) will not open at weekends; however, Aroma Cairngorm will open from 9am on Saturdays/Sundays, serving the same barista coffee

In addition, the Aroma cafes at the Health Village and the Dental School will close for the remainder of the 2022/23 financial year, effective from close of business this Friday (27 May). These changes reflect rising costs across the retail catering operation. Rising costs also mean there will be a 5% price increase in all retail catering outlets. This will also take effect next Monday (30 May).

Clinical Doctorate opportunity Funding is available for two candidates in NHS Grampian to undertake the Doctor of Nursing/Midwifery/Professional Health Studies programme at the University of Stirling. The funding is for part-time study and includes all academic fees. This is an exciting opportunity for experienced practitioners who seek to enhance their clinical academic career and lead in their field of practice. Applications will be particularly welcome from those who are committed to study areas that are aligned to our NMAHP strategy. [More information is available here](#) (intranet link); for advice and support, nurses & midwives can contact Debbie: deborah.baldie@nhs.scot; AHPs can contact Kay: k.cooper@rgu.ac.uk

NoSCAR research award The Rewards and Recognition team are pleased to announce the first annual NoSCAR research award for NHS Grampian NMAHPs. The winner of the award will receive a rewards and recognition certificate and £300 which they can use for a conference or other personal development activities. We are looking for NHS Grampian NMAHPs who meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Led/co-led or played a significant role in a research study of local significance/impact
- Undertaken/undertaking research that has the potential to influence practice
- Produced research outputs from own research
- Generated impact locally from own research

For the purposes of this award Research includes Primary research of any type (e.g., quantitative, qualitative, mixed methods) and evidence synthesis (e.g., systematic review). Research outputs include peer-reviewed journal articles and conference abstracts, and Impact includes anything to demonstrate that the research findings are making a difference. Do you know of a worthy recipient of this award? Make your nomination by 20 June by either scanning the QR code below or by [going to this website](#). Nominations will be reviewed by the NoSCAR steering group and will be announced on 13 July 2022.



Aberdeen Sports Village Corporate Games There are still opportunities to get involved in the corporate games, in the following events:

- Diving - We are looking for more people to take part in the diving event, especially females. The event itself is on Wednesday 15 June, 6-9pm, however you **MUST** be able to make the training sessions too: Tuesday 31 May and Tuesday 7 June both 8.30-9.30pm. The venue for this event and the training is Aberdeen Aquatics Centre.
- Table Tennis - We are also looking for more female participants in the table tennis event. It would be great if you could attend at least one of the training sessions. Event: Wednesday 22 June 4.30-10.30pm, training: Wednesday 8 and Wednesday 15 June, 5-9pm. Venue: Sports Hall, Aberdeen Sports Village

To book a place or for more information please email gram.sports@nhs.scot All participants in the Games receive a free 5 visit pass to Aberdeen Sports Village.

Pause for Thought Here is your weekly opportunity for reflection, taken from last week's Guided Journaling sessions. You can find out more about Guided Journaling [via the We Care website](#).

Einstein said: "Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning." In what ways might you benefit from the acts of learning, living, and hoping?

Tune of the day I was struck today by the story of [Alex and Jane Hamilton from Edinburgh](#), who married last weekend after 60 years together. The pair have raised 5 children and welcomed 11 grandchildren in that time, as well as running their own business, but never quite got round to making it official. Inspired by them, our tune of the day is [You Can't Hurry Love by The Supremes](#).

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 (EP)