

Wednesday 12 February 2025



[In February's packed edition of Ask Adam](#), our staff Q&A with interim Chief Executive Adam Coldwells, financial pressures, bed space and corridor care are right at the top of the agenda. Adam also provides updates on water dispensing and addresses concerns about car parking and the speed of the Band 5 nursing job re-evaluation. As always, we appreciate most people like to dip into the questions that are of interest to them, so we have included time stamps below to each question to allow you to do so.

[00:39](#) Financial position update

[03:01](#) Finances & Job Security: Reassurance about potential job security.

[05:54](#) Staff Wellbeing: Steps to support staff wellbeing amid increasing workloads and organizational changes.

[09:10](#) Challenging the Scottish Government on our budget allocation and their awareness of bed pressures.

[16:51](#) Bed & Space Shortages: Solutions for year-round ward availability to reduce corridor care and ambulance queuing.

[22:20](#) Updates on parent and child parking spaces in the Lady Helen car park.

[24:28](#) Responsibility for cleaning the Lady Helen Car Park

[26:58](#) Plans to improve pedestrian routes around the Lady Helen Car Park and the link road.

[27:01](#) Concerns about discharges for vulnerable patients.

[30:18](#) Speeding up the Band 5 Nursing Job Re-evaluation process and expected timelines.

[33:40](#) Reducing unnecessary lighting at the Baird Family Hospital and finding cost-effective alternatives for patient care.

[36:13](#) Update on the plumbed water dispenser trial for staff.

[38:26](#) Pay Dates: Adjusting December and January pay dates to avoid long gaps.

[40:41](#) Is there a hiring freeze?

[43:30](#) Staff Amenities: Policy on providing tea and coffee for staff events and its justification.

[45:05](#) Corridor care and repurposing clinical spaces.

We were unable to get through all the questions in a single session, so Steven and Adam are due to film a follow up next week to address those. Among the topics that will be addressed then are questions on orthopaedics at Dr Gray's and system and theatre redesign. If you'd like to ask Adam a question or provide feedback, send an email to gram.communications@nhs.scot (Please indicate if you would like your question to be anonymous).

SCI Store user security maintenance – starting today! A behind-the-scenes process to tidy up permission administration in SCI Store begins today. This is due to changes in security controls in the new version. Users should notice little or no change, and access will be maintained throughout the work which is due to be completed by 25 February. Any issues to your permissions access in SCI Store should be raised as normal through the IT Service Desk.

Relaunch of Green Bag scheme We are relaunching the 'Green Bag' scheme today, to promote patient independence and safety. It comes after the 'Only Order What You Need' campaign was shared last year and is part of ongoing work to reduce medicines wastage across the region. As well as being handed out at pre-assessment clinics and during admissions to hospital, Green Bags are now available for anyone to collect from their local pharmacy. Ambulance staff and GMED staff may also use Green Bags to collect individuals' medicines in an emergency. They are used to keep individuals' regular medicines in one place, so healthcare staff know what is being taken and how often.

For more information, visit: <https://www.nhsgrampian.org/greenbagscheme>

Aberdeenshire Integrated Joint Board (IJB) The Aberdeenshire IJB will meet next Wednesday (19 February) to agree an indicative budget for the Aberdeenshire health and social care partnership for 2025/26. [The agenda and papers will be available via this link later today](#) and outline the serious financial challenges colleagues across the partnership will face over the coming months. These challenges are not unique to Aberdeenshire HSCP but are across the whole of the public sector, including ourselves.

Aberdeen City CTAC service – update As of Wednesday 26 February, the Community Treatment and Care (CTAC) service will stop operating from Carden House, on Carden Place and relocate to the Health Village on Frederick Street, as of Friday 28 February 2025. More information is available here: [| Aberdeen City HSCP](#)

Wellbeing, Culture, and Development Wednesday

- **NHS Scotland Management Training Scheme (MTS) - Recruitment is now open** The MTS Recruitment is now open until 23 February 2025: [NHS Scotland | Jobs | Search here for your perfect career - Job Information | Apply for General Management Trainee - NHS Scotland Management Training Scheme 2025](#)
- **Digital Health and Care Leadership Programme (DIT)** Applications are open for the 26th cohort of this programme; more information available here: [Digital Health and Care Leadership Programme - Applications now Open!](#). Due to high demand successful applicants may be offered a place on a future cohort.

To Contact Wellbeing, Culture and Development, please email gram.wcd@nhs.scot

Tune of the day You're a soulful, emotional, bunch, do you know that? Clare Walker (public health) has asked for [The Head And The Heart](#) by Chris de Burgh. Donna Brown, from the sexual health team, is on the path of lost love, suggesting [Last Kiss](#) by Taylor Swift.

Sneaking in another tune to say farewell to Lauren McGregor, a secretary in urology. Lauren is heading back to the US with her family and will be very much missed by the team. [Leaving, On A Jet Plane](#) is the very appropriate suggestion (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