

Thursday 13 March 2025

Pensions - 2015 Remedy member update The Scottish Public Pensions Agency recently provided an update to members regarding the 2015 remedy choice, this update can be found on the [Pensions intranet page](#) (networked devices only).

Tobacco Strategic Plan for north-east Scotland Working with our partners in Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire, and Moray health and social care partnerships, we have created a new Tobacco Strategic Plan. This aims to support partnership working and have a greater impact on reducing tobacco-related harm by accelerating reduction in smoking rates to an ambitious national goal of 5% by 2034. This will help to protect future generations from the many health problems caused by smoking and make smoking cessation support even more easily available. The strategy focuses work on 6 priority areas with actions laid out for all:

- Accessible and effective Smoking Cessation Services
- Creating and supporting smoke and vape free environments
- Pregnant women who smoke and their families
- Young people, particularly those who are vulnerable and living in poverty
- Smoking and mental health
- People within the Community Justice System

The strategy is available to read in full here: [Tobacco Strategy](#)

Once for Scotland Policies As you may be aware, we are anticipating the publication of the next suite of Once for Scotland Policies. The Scottish Government has delayed the publication of these policies, but they do not anticipate it will be a lengthy delay. Keep an eye on this brief; we will share the latest policies once published.

Unconscious Bias & Active Bystander workshop There are spaces left for this workshop, taking place on Monday 24 March between 10-11.30am. We'll delve into Unconscious Bias and learn how to identify it in the first part. The second part will focus on empowering you to act as an Active Bystanders, intervening safely when they observe inappropriate behaviour in the workplace. The session is interactive, featuring presentations, group discussions, and training videos. Booking is via Turas: [Unconscious Bias and Active Bystander Workshop | Turas | Learn](#)

Nation Framework for Effective Cancer Management (FECM) The FECM has recently been refreshed and republished. It is available to view here: [Framework for Effective Cancer Management | The national Cen](#). The cancer performance triumvirate (Rafael Moleron, Sasia Pryor, Jinette Mathieson) will monitor the FECM action plan in collaboration with service leads and report progress back through local governance groups and to Scottish Government.

Updated - staff physiotherapy service self-help guide The staff physiotherapy service produces a regularly updated information guide. The latest edition focuses on sleep. [You can read the full guide here.](#)

Pension Age Disability Payment This payment, the Scottish replacement for Attendance Allowance, will open for new applications in phase two pilot areas on Monday 24 March. Moray and Aberdeenshire are among the pilot areas for phase two; Aberdeen City joined the pilot last October. If you are a healthcare professional who completes Social Security Scotland Benefits Assessment under Special Rules in Scotland (BASRiS) forms and Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) SR1/DS1500 forms for terminally ill patients, further guidance is available here: [Social Security Scotland - When to complete a BASRiS, SR1 or a DS1500 from](#)

Tune of the day Our request today comes from Michelle Grant, who has been working on the implementation of Morse to health visiting, school nursing, and community nursing across Grampian. She's heading back to her substantive post next week and wants to say a huge thank you to everyone who has been involved. Everyone has worked so hard, and the resilience shown by the teams faced with such a big change has been amazing- and a special thanks to Jill and Stewart in the digital directorate! She's asked for Andy Stewart and [We're No Awa' Tae Bide Awa'](#) (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