

Friday 17 January 2025

Finance update – escalation to Stage Three The financial pressures we are facing as an organisation are well known. A significant amount of work is taking place, across all services and departments, to ensure we are spending public money as efficiently and effectively as possible. We are extremely grateful to all of you for your hard work on this, amidst high demand on our services.

Notwithstanding this work, our financial position remains extremely challenging. We have received a letter from Scottish Government (attached to the email used to send this brief), confirming our escalation to Stage Three of the NHS Scotland support & intervention framework for finance. We are working closely with Scottish Government to understand what this will mean for us and what further support will be provided.

We will continue to provide updates via the Daily Brief and will offer further finance Q&A sessions before the end of the 24/25 financial year.

A discharge lounge for DGH - test of change From next Tuesday (21 January) until the end of March, a discharge lounge will operate in a bay area in Ward 3 at DGH, as a test of change. The aim is to test whether such a facility is a sustainable option to support improvement to:

- Implementation of the Dr Gray's Hospital Target Operating & Surge Bed Plan Winter 2024.
- Existing discharge planning processes focused on specific wards, and patients awaiting discharge from the Emergency Department.
- Patient pathway/patient experience.
- Safety within hospital and system flow

The lounge will be able to accommodate 6 patients who are ready for discharge but who cannot immediately leave the hospital e.g. due to transport arrangements. It will be staffed by two nurses. We will gather feedback from staff and patients alike during the test and take a decision about any future discharge lounge facility later in 2025.

Cancellation of works Please note the roadworks planned for the Loop Road this weekend have been **cancelled**. The road will be open as usual with no restrictions.

COWs clarification Following yesterday's item about COWs (computers on wheels) we have been asked to remind COWs users they are **not** solely for accessing Trak, but also for use of programmes such as HEPMA. The key point to remember is they should not be used to access personal information, such as email or electronic payslips.

Mortuary project newsletter The latest edition of the North-East Scotland and Northern Isles Integrated Mortuary Project newsletter is out now and [available to read via this link](#).

That was the week that was:

Monday 13 – Teams names are changing, use of Treatment Escalation Plans

Tuesday 14 – delays in orders from NDC, 2025 MCN conference dates

Wednesday 15 – new travel health service – coming soon, Loop Road restrictions this weekend

Thursday 16 – use of FRSMs, toner scam alert

[All briefs are stored online, just click this link](#) or visit Working with Us>HR Portal>NHSG Staff Daily Briefs on the NHS Grampian website.

STAR Award Congratulations and felicitations to Sylwia Rittlewska, a healthcare support worker at Rosewell House and recent recipient of a STAR Award. She was nominated in recognition of the warm welcome she gives to all new staff at Rosewell and consistently goes above and beyond. If you want to nominate a colleague or team, please use this form: [STAR Award nomination form](#)

Tune of the day Thanks to Amy Muirhead (medical secretary, RACH) for today's request; she's asked for Gomez and [See The World](#). She says every time she hears it, it just makes her smile, and you can't say fairer than that.

I say it almost every week, but repetition makes it no less true: thank you for everything you've done, everything you continue to do, and simply for showing up. Whatever this weekend holds for you, I hope you have a good one. (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