

Thursday 20 February 2025

Reduced Working Week update We have now received further guidance on the reduction of the working week for Agenda for Change staff. **Boards have been instructed to implement a reduction of 60 minutes (pro rata) from 1 April 2026.** An implementation plan should be completed and agreed by local area partnership forums by 1 October 2025. [You can read the circular for yourself here](#) (PCS(AFC)2025/01); it confirms more information will be provided to boards in due course. We will provide further updates via this brief; in the meantime, all rosters etc should be planned based on a 37-hour working week.

Today is National Adult Support and Protection Day This week, the Public Protection team has been drawing attention to the duty healthcare professionals have in relation to Adult Support and Protection. When healthcare professionals follow the 5 R's - Recognise, Respond, Report, Record and Reflect, patient outcomes can be greatly improved. [This video is a reminder](#) to everyone about the importance of knowing about Adult Support and Protection, and what to do. We also want to remind everybody about their learning requirements for Adult Support and Protection Training:

- **Public Protection Online Module 1:** This module has replaced the previous standalone Level 1 modules for Public Protection, Child Protection, Adult Support & Protection and PREVENT. All patient facing and non-patient facing staff are required to complete this mandatory training which delivers all the learning objectives for Public Protection, Child Protection, Adult Protection and PREVENT within the one module.
- **Adult Support and Protection Module 2:** This is a more in-depth instructor led session. It goes into greater depth regarding Adult Support and Protection criteria, reporting, recording and multiagency working. All patient facing staff are required to complete this mandatory training.

[You can access these modules on Turas](#) (log-in required). Support and guidance for staff can be accessed via the [Public Protection intranet site](#).

Occupational Health Service from Maryhill House in Elgin Nursing capacity at our Elgin office at Maryhill House will be reduced for the next 2-3 months. As a result, there will be no clinics in Huntly, Banff, and Buckie in this time. We have rescheduled appointments for routine immunisations and some other appointments which can be delivered on Attend Anywhere or by telephone. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. For exposures to blood and body fluid in hours please contact OHS in Aberdeen in the first instance where staff will advise. Out of hours please continue to follow the BBV exposure protocol.

Hyperbaric service open days – spaces still available Did you know hyperbaric oxygen is used for more than diving and decompression illness? It also has benefits in cases of soft tissue radiation damage e.g. cystitis or proctitis, osteoradionecrosis, selected non-healing surgical wounds, and diabetic foot ulcers. The hyperbaric team are hosting one day information courses if you are interested in learning more about hyperbaric and potential benefits to your patients.

- Nursing/AHP staff: 4 March, 30 September
- Medical staff: 25 March, 28 October

For more information or to book your place email gram.hyperbaric@nhs.scot or call Ext. 53264

Poverty Awareness and Stigma Session Anne McCormack of The Poverty Alliance will be delivering a Poverty Awareness and Stigma session for all staff, via Team, on the following dates:

- Tuesday 4 March, 2-4pm
- Thursday 13 March, 10am-12pm

The session will cover the definitions and drivers of poverty, levers to address it, and ways to overcome stigma. For more information and to book your place please email: gram.northpublichealth@nhs.scot

Libraries & Knowledge Service X Staff Equalities Network Book Blether special Writing can be an extraordinary way of learning about yourself and sharing what's unique to you. On Thursday 6 March – World Book Day – we'll welcome Harry Josephine Giles for both a reading and a practical workshop. Participants will hear poems exploring identity and self-expression, and take part in some simple, accessible writing exercises to find new ways of looking at ourselves. Suitable for anyone who's interested in words, from dedicated journalers to first time poets, this is a chance to take a break from your day to look at the world differently. This author event is open to all NHS and health & social care colleagues in Grampian. The event will take place between 1-2pm [and you can register via this link](#).

This event has been created in partnership by the Staff Equalities Network, the Libraries & Knowledge Service, NHS Grampian Charity, and Scottish Book Trust

Tune of the day This Saturday (22 February) is World Thinking Day/Founders' Day, a day of celebration in Girlguiding and Scouting. Many of us working in health and social care (myself included) volunteer with these organisations, so for all the Brown Owls, Akelas, and the rest of the amazing volunteers supporting young people in their communities, here's [Let's Work Together](#) by Canned Heat (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