

Wednesday 21 August 2024

Agenda for Change pay offer 24/25 A pay increase of 5.5% has been offered to all Agenda for Change staff in NHS Scotland. This offer is now under consideration by trade unions. A statement on the offer is available here: [Pay offer to NHS Agenda for Change staff - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/policies/employment/2024/08/24/agenda-for-change-pay-offer-24-25)

Drug and Alcohol Care Team (DACT) Update Further to previous communication regarding the cessation of the Drug and Alcohol Care Team (DACT), it's now operationally necessary to reduce service delivery further in line with the service reduction plan.

After this Friday (23 August), the team will cease accepting referrals for patients who present with issues relating to their substance use. The team will revert to the previous alcohol liaison model only for the ARI site (excluding the Emergency Department), will continue to operate Monday – Friday 8am-4pm, and can be contacted through existing channels. Further updates will be provided as matters progress.

Grampian Area Partnership Forum (GAPF) development day You are warmly invited to attend the annual GAPF development day, taking place on Thursday 19 September 2024 at Curl Aberdeen. As well as an "Ask Adam" live session, we will welcome Dr Tharaka Gunarathne (TV psychiatrist & corporate event speaker) who will lead workshops on 'Beating Burnout' and 'Creating Psychological Safety'.

If you are interested in attending, please email gram.partnership@nhs.scot no later than Thursday 5 September, including any dietary or other requirements. Everyone welcome.

Shelf-life of sharps bins The requirement to close and dispose of sharps bins within 3 months of first use has now been **removed**. This is a fantastic change from a practical and sustainability point of view and means there is no requirement to finally close these bins until contents reach the maximum fill line.

This has been approved by national infection control team at ARHAI (Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infection) Scotland and the instruction is due to be removed from national waste guidance SHTN03-01.

Leading person-centred culture & care at NHS Grampian: An NMAHP Leader's Programme Leaders learn how to empower their teams to work collectively to develop a team vision and values; ways of being; evaluating and improving practice; challenging routines and ritualised practices and behaviours. This is available to all nurses, midwives, and allied health professionals who are in a senior clinical leadership role (i.e., Band 6 and above) and we would encourage to consider undertaking this programme as part of their leadership development. Dates for the [2025 cohorts are online here](#), and the [application form can be found here](#) (both intranet links, networked devices only).

Please direct any enquiries/applications to gram.practiceeducation@nhs.scot

Wellbeing, culture, and development Wednesday

- **Spaces for Listening - September dates now live!** Are you in need for some time to pause, connect with others, listen to each other and just be? September dates for the Spaces for Listening sessions have just gone live! Hosted by NHS Grampian but also open to all colleagues across the Health and Social Care Partnerships. Dates, times, and contacts as follows:

12 September, 9.30-10.30am, to book please contact fiona.sharples@nhs.scot

18 September, 8.30-9.30am, to book please contact agnieszka.stephen@nhs.scot

30 September, 3-4pm, to book please contact fiona.sharples@nhs.scot

- **Retirement Planning for a Positive Future - spaces still available!** The next retirement planning session will take place, on Teams, on 10 September, 1-3.30pm. Spaces are still available for this course, which encourages a positive and realistic approach to help you make informed choices about your retirement plans. For more information, please contact gram.wcd@nhs.scot or click here (requires Turas log-in): [Retirement planning for a positive future | Turas | Learn \(nhs.scot\)](#)

For any Wellbeing, culture or development (WCD) questions please contact gram.wcd@nhs.scot

Tune of the day Jodie Frater, senior charge nurse on ward 402/403 in ARI, is heading off on maternity leave; her colleagues have been in touch to wish her all the best and thank her for being such a passionate and inspiring leader. For Jodie, with the added instruction to put her feet up before the baby comes, here's Westlife and [Bop Bop Baby](#)

From one inspirational colleague to another; clinical nurse specialist Jacquie Reid is retiring. According to the endocrinology team, she's been keeping them right at RACH for over 30 years with her knowledge, guidance, and sense of fun. She will be sorely missed by colleagues and her patients (which include the children of her former patients as she's been here so long!). Jacquie's final clinic was this afternoon, so for her, here's [\(I've Had\) The Time of My Life](#) by Bill Medley and Jennifer Warnes. (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