

Daily Brief...



Monday 25 November 2024

Finance Q&As Thank you to everyone who attended our finance Q&A sessions last week. As promised, all the sessions were recorded and are available to watch on YouTube, via the links below. The same presentation was given in all three sessions, the only variation is in the questions asked.

[Monday 18 November](#) - discussion included postage costs, purchasing on PECOS, and sharing good practice.

[Wednesday 20 November](#) - discussion included vacancy controls, impact of Reduced Working Week, managing Service Level Agreements.

[Thursday 21 November](#) - discussion included potential for savings by going digital.

Aberdeenshire HSCP team talk – tomorrow Pam Milliken, Chief Officer in Aberdeenshire, will host another team talk tomorrow, between 1-2pm. The focus will be on finance, and Pam will be joined by members of the senior management team and all colleagues are invited to attend. No need to book, [just use this Teams link](#). If you have a question, suggestion, or concern you would like to share confidentially ahead of time please use this form: [Budget queries/suggestions](#) and they will try to answer your query.

Don't use unapproved apps or services Unapproved apps or online services **must never** be used for work purposes. This includes services like WhatsApp and other personal (i.e. non-NHS) messaging services etc. By 'work purposes' we mean any discussion of, or with, patients or clients, any discussion of work arrangements e.g., shift swaps/rosters, or holding any service or team meetings on such apps or services. If you have further questions, please contact gram.infogovernance@nhs.scot

Wintery weather? Think Near Me video appointments The disruption caused by the weather last week is a timely reminder of the convenience and value of video appointments. Bill and his wife Pat describe the benefit they get from video consultations [in this short video](#). A bit rusty on Near Me? There's lots of information available on Turas: [Near Me video consulting | Turas | Learn](#). Need a Near Me waiting area for your service? Email gram.nearme@nhs.scot

Social Security Scotland Disability Payments Since 2021, Social Security Scotland have requested medical information for disability payments, previously known as Disability Living Allowances, directly from health boards. You – we - are obliged to comply with these requests. If you receive a request for information in support of a disability payment, it will come from the Social Security Scotland system, Objective Connect. You input the relevant information into that system. You will also receive an email from Information Governance to let you know that you have a request and to share guidance and training. If you have any questions, please contact Information Governance - gram.dpo@nhs.scot

Update on Grampian-wide back scanning project Since NEC Software Solutions came on board to support the roll-out of the back scanning project with our GP practices, medical records are being digitised at pace. This work should be completed by Spring 2025, ahead of schedule, and is proving to be a great example of cross-service working, led by our NHS Grampian Back Scanning Group.

Funding will not allow for all GP practice records across Grampian to be digitised but all health and social care partnerships have been involved in assessing and prioritising this work during the last few years. Funding application packs were shared with each practice to repurpose the space created by the records being scanned, and colleagues in property are working with practices on this using Improvement Grant and possibly Developer Obligation funding where possible. This has been a huge amount of work for everyone involved, so well-done folks!

Keep up the good work with a Keep Cup! Congratulations to our catering colleagues who work across all Aroma cafes and stalls, who are helping to encourage a small change that adds up to a big difference. 6.29% of all hot drinks sales were made using a reusable mug during October and they're hoping you can help us boost this even higher over the next few months. There's no need to have an Aroma branded Keep Cup; any re-usable cup will do, and the best part is it will earn you a small discount on your brew!

Secret Santa Gleneagles draw – have you entered yet? We're one week in and have a very healthy number of entries into the 2024 draw for Gleneagles vouchers. There are a total of 38 vouchers for an overnight stay for two, including breakfast, to give away. The draw will remain open until 11.45pm on Sunday 15 December. [All the information you need to enter is on the intranet here](#) (networked devices only). This draw is open to NHS Grampian employees with a substantive contract and is limited to one entry per employee. Full terms and conditions are at the page linked above.

Aberdeen Musical Medics Society concert – this Saturday The Aberdeen Musical Medics Society – made up of medical students and staff in Aberdeen would like to invite you to their annual Christmas concert, taking place at Gerrard Street Baptist Church, this Saturday (30 November) at 7pm. We look forward to transporting you from the fiery streets of Spain to the wild Highlands of Scotland with a bit of Christmas in between! Tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for children/concessions. You can purchase [your tickets online via this link](#) or on the door on Saturday. All proceeds will support charities Music in Hospitals and Friends of ANCHOR.

Pause for thought If there was no failure, only feedback, what would you do?

Tune of the day We kick start another working week with [Australia](#) by Manic Street Preachers, inspired of course by Scotland's win at Murrayfield on Saturday. Nicely done, chaps (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