

Wednesday 25 September 2024

Preparing health and social care for winter The Scottish Government has announced a record number of NHS 24 call handlers will support the public to access the most appropriate care this winter as services deal with increased demand.

The move will increase service capacity to provide clinical supervision for at least 150,000 additional calls per year and “help prevent unnecessary A&E attendances”.

Health Secretary Neil Gray added: “As winter approaches, the NHS will see surges in demand across all health, social care and social work services.

“We will continue our work to reduce delayed discharge in hospitals with an increased focus on effective discharge planning and protecting care at home packages.

“We will also ensure planned care capacity is protected as much as possible in the face of winter pressure so patients are seen as quickly as possible.

“I thank all health, social care and social work staff for their continued efforts and dedication to deliver high quality care. It is fundamental we safeguard their wellbeing, and improved options on flexible working and continued access to mental health resources will ensure staff are supported over this challenging period.”

‘Gloves Off’ for public, employee and planet health Our IPC and waste management colleagues are aiming to improve patient care, have a positive impact on the environment and reduce unnecessary waste by reminding staff to carefully consider whether gloves are required when delivering care.

NHS Grampian Board Chair Alison Evison rolled up her sleeves during a Climate Week visit to Ward 215 at ARI to show her support for the ‘Gloves Off’ campaign today. [Read the full story.](#)

Migraine Awareness Week This runs from 23-29 September, it aims to shine a light on this debilitating condition that affects one in seven people. If you’re one of them, you’re not alone. NHS Grampian is here to support you with resources and information to manage your migraine effectively.

Visit [Migraine \(nhsgrampian.org\)](https://nhsgrampian.org/migraine) for tips, treatment options, and support resources. Together, we can make a difference and improve the lives of those living with migraine.

IT Training If you would like to learn more about Excel or Word to upgrade your skills and knowledge, courses from Intro to Advanced level are available to book on Turas Learn. Dates are available from October to December in Aberdeen and Elgin. Please book a seat via the [IT Training page of Turas Learn](#) and check your availability with your manager.

Please do not wedge open fire doors PAll staff are reminded fire doors should never be left wedged open. You can find lots of helpful guidance on the [Fire Safety Team intranet page under 'guidance documents.'](#)

Drug and Alcohol Care Team (DACT) Update The service has now reverted to the previous Alcohol Liaison model exclusively for the patient cohort within Ward 104 and Ward 103/Toxicology and no longer accepts referrals for patients out with the aforementioned inpatient areas or who present with issues relating to their substance use.

Reminder about the survey on reporting violence and aggression We want to better understand what prevents reporting of violence and aggression in our workplaces, and what would enable it. [We are encouraging as many of you as possible to complete this survey](#) which should take 5-10 minutes. Please share the link with your colleagues too. The survey is confidential and anonymous and will run until 30th September.

Wellbeing, Culture, and Development Wednesday

Manager Development Forum The next meeting of the Manager Development Forum is at 2pm on Wednesday 2nd October. We'll be using the Troika Consulting model to problem solve. Why not bring along your current management challenge and see what insights using Troika might bring. We look forward to seeing you there. [Join the meeting here](#)

Speak Up Week and 'Anti-Racism One Year On' 2024 A session will take place to launch this year's Speak-Up Week on 30th September from 10-11.30am. We will reflect on a year since the launch of the NHS Grampian Anti-Racism Plan and provide an update on progress. We are also keen to explore what colleagues need to feel safe and confident to 'speak up' when things aren't right (regardless of what it is, i.e. bullying, discrimination, racism, whistleblowing) and what our workforce need to enable them to listen well and play their part in creating a culture of 'listen up'. Find out more and book your place. [Speak Up and Antiracism One Year On 2024 \(nhsgrampian.org\)](https://nhsgrampian.org)

More sessions will be advertised through the Speak Up team, and colleagues in Equality and Diversity next week.

Tune of the day Today's song comes via, police custody nurse, Julie Stewart. Her colleague, Grace Brodie will be finishing her last shift as a Miss tomorrow morning – as she prepares to get married on October 6. Julie said: "All the staff at Kittybrewster Police custody suite both nurses and officers wish them a long and happy future together." To mark the occasion, here's The Proclaimers with [Let's Get Married](#)

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