

Wednesday 27 November 2024

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**Overtime reduction** In September, information was shared via Global email on our work to reduce the use of overtime (Additional Hours) and excess hours. This work is ongoing, and line managers should continue to follow this guidance. However, the ready reckoners provided at the time, illustrating the most cost-effective ways to cover staffing requirements, are out of date considering the 2024/25 Agenda for Change pay agreement. [The reckoners have been updated and are available here](#) (intranet link, networked devices only) under 'Overtime'. Please delete previous versions and ensure these versions are the only ones used.

**Revised infection prevention & control protocol** Please be aware the revised 'NHS Grampian Staff Protocol for the Isolation of Patients who are at Risk of a Transmissible Infection within NHS Healthcare Settings v4' is now live on the IPC intranet page [and can be accessed via this link](#) (networked devices only). Please ensure you are using the correct version of this protocol and destroy previous versions.

**Acute PACS maintenance – downtime** Phillips are performing some routine maintenance and upgrades on the PACS server equipment this Friday (29 November). As such the PACS server will be unavailable briefly (approximately 10 minutes) between 7-8am. If you are trying to send imaging to the PACS server during this time and it does not send correctly, please wait for 10 minutes and resend the imaging manually. We do not anticipate any further disruption to the systems during the maintenance window.

**National Distribution Centre (NDC) Winter schedule** The changes to this year's ordering and delivery schedule of goods from the NDC during the winter period are [available on the procurement intranet page](#) (networked devices only). If you are responsible for ordering, please plan ahead to avoid delays and additional pressure during these weeks.

**Use of waste oil and fats to power back-up generators** The back-up generators for all new buildings at Foresterhill, such as the new mortuary, are to be powered with hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO), in our latest step towards reducing carbon emissions. The HVO fuel will be sourced from a depot in Huntly and if it meets the correct specifications, its environmental impact is significantly less than gas or diesel. You can find out more about this exciting development here: [NHS Grampian to use waste oil and fats for back-up generators](#)

**ICYMI - numeracy course at SCQF Level 5** If you are a healthcare support worker keen to undertake nursing training, but you don't have a maths qualification, NESCoI will be offering a maths course in early 2025. Classes will take place at the Suttie Centre, and the course will run for 12 weeks. Places are only available to healthcare support workers in substantive posts **and** living in Aberdeen City (this is a condition of the funding for this course).

There is no study time for this course; you must have the support of your line manager to ensure you are not rostered to work during class time. [To apply, please complete this form.](#) **Closing date for applications is 6 December.** Contact [gram.practiceeducation@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.practiceeducation@nhs.scot) with any queries.

**Paediatric physiotherapy advice line** The paediatric physiotherapy service run a children and young person's advice line twice a week. This is available to anyone with questions or concerns about a child's mobility, any recovery from injury, or if the child is not hitting expected milestones. The line is open every Wednesday (1-3pm) and Friday (11am – 1pm) on 01224 559 877

**Art and Medicine exhibition** During the Medical Humanities student selected component, third year medical students are encouraged to consider medicine, healthcare, and illness from an alternative perspective. You are invited to view the work of the 30 students who have chosen to do this through an artist lens in an exhibition at the Suttie Centre (Foresterhill); the exhibition will run from 12 noon on Wednesday 4 December until 4pm on Friday 6 December. All welcome.

### **Wellbeing, Culture, and Development Wednesday**

- **Menopause Tea and Talk** Our next session takes place next Monday (2 December) at 1-2pm, with the topic 'Focus on alternatives to HRT' with Wendy Knoops, menopause specialist and GP specialising in women's health. Please contact [gram.wcd@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.wcd@nhs.scot) for the meeting link. To be kept updated on future sessions please join [GRAM Menopause tea and talk](#) on Teams.
- **December's Spaces for Listening Dates** Three 'Spaces for Listening' dates have now been announced, for more information and to view the details just click here: [Spaces for Listening - December dates are now live!](#)
- **Action for Happiness Calendar- December** The last month of 2024 is just around the corner; the Action for Happiness calendar is now live and full of easy small acts of kindness to incorporate into your day: [Do Good December | Action for Happiness](#)

To contact Wellbeing, Culture and Development please email [gram.wcd@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.wcd@nhs.scot)

**Tune of the day** Gillian Parkin is leaving the City IJB and mental health finance team behind as of today; Stuart, Fiona, and the whole gang say she will be greatly missed. I hear Gillian is a big fan of The Cult, so [She Sells Sanctuary](#) seems appropriate (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](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot)