

Friday 30 August 2024

Disruption to Remote Access - AOVPN / Direct Access – ongoing issues Our digital team are continuing to work hard on resolving the AOVPN/Direct Access issue. Following investigation, a new fibre optic cable needs to be installed to replace the cable damaged in the electrical fire at ARI earlier this week.

It is difficult to confirm when this will be resolved. If you require access to NHS systems and services, which you normally access remotely on a laptop and cannot access remotely at present, you should put plans in place to work from an NHS Grampian building over the weekend and on Monday (2 September).

As previously highlighted, this fault impacts on the ability to connect to the NHS Grampian network using AOVPN or Direct Access from NHS Grampian laptops. Access to Microsoft 365 services such as Teams and Outlook are **not** impacted by this as they are **not** reliant on AOVPN or Direct Access. There will be a further update issued on Monday.

Putting People First open session - Community Appointment Days and Community-Led Approaches [Putting People First](#) is our new approach to listening to, and involving, everyone living in the local area. Part of setting the foundations is to support a small number of teams to hold appointment/outpatient sessions in local communities. These are known as 'Community Appointment Days' and they focus on a particular condition or service such as physiotherapy. Clinicians will be joined by community supports and charities to offer a 'one-stop shop' to those who come along. Community Appointment Days are aimed at making services more effective by enabling better collaboration with local resources, helping people to manage their own conditions more effectively, and connecting them with other organisations and groups who can support them.

Beyond this, we're interested in the different ways we can involve communities in health and care more broadly. We are holding an informal open session at **10am on Tuesday 3 September** on Teams for anyone who wants to find out more or get involved and be inspired by the great work happening in this space. Colleagues will be speaking about the following exciting approaches:

- Laura Sutherland will tell us about the work ongoing in Elgin to deliver a Community Appointment Day around MSK issues, which will be taking place in just a couple of weeks!
- Lindsey Kelly will discuss work undertaken around Long Covid including community drop-in session for patients and professionals.
- Deborah Byars and Paul Southworth will talk about early planning to develop a Community Appointment Day around chronic pain in Aberdeen City.
- Gbemileke Majekodunmi from GREC will be speaking about Health MOT days among speakers of languages other than English in Aberdeen.

If you are interested in attending, please contact: gram.puttingpeoplefirst@nhs.scot

Mosque committee meeting Alison Evison (Chair) joined Adam Coldwells (interim chief executive) and Steven Lindsay (employee director) to meet with the Mosque Committee at Foresterhill last week. Following the recent riots in some UK cities, the Board want to ensure two-way communications with anyone working for NHS Grampian, who may be feeling anxious as a result, remain open. Whilst visiting the prayer room, they discussed our shared solidarity not only with NHS colleagues but all emergency services and public sector colleagues who had been called upon to deal with the resulting impact of these events. As we approach the first anniversary of the launch of our anti-racism plan, we should all remember any form of discrimination will not be tolerated. We have a collective responsibility to challenge such behaviours whenever we encounter them.

Orange zone cafe, ARI We can confirm the Orange zone cafe in ARI will reopen as planned on Monday 2 September. Thank you for your patience during the temporary closure.

Book Blether 24/25 A reminder our [Book Blether](#) sessions return next Thursday at 1pm. We discuss what we are currently reading, and for September we have an additional theme of books that make us think of 'End of summer and that 'back to school' feeling'. Email cornhill.library@nhs.scot for a meeting link; regular readers and newcomers alike are very welcome.

That was the week that was

Monday 26 – roll out of Microsoft security policy, electronic payslips update

Tuesday 27 – information on SMS service data breach, domestic & support services – reduced working week

Wednesday 28 – decontamination units and surgical disruption, staff physiotherapy self-help guide

Thursday 29 – car parking etiquette and site safety, recording absence due to violence and aggression

[All briefs are stored online, just click this link](#) or visit Working with Us>HR Portal>NHSG Staff Daily Briefs on the NHS Grampian website.

STAR Award We're up to date with presentations, so we'll simply remind you to put forward a colleague or a team for a STAR award, [by completing the online nomination form](#), or emailing the details of the person/team you want to nominate to gram.staffthanksandrecognition@nhs.scot

Tune of the day Fit a week! I'm starting with a shout out to the digital team, who have been working hard to resolve the remote access issues, and who do their utmost to be helpful and friendly. Karen Watson (acute partnership staffside chair) asked for a 'robust' Oasis tune dedicated to them, I've gone for [\(What's The Story\) Morning Glory](#)

Up next, Lesley Brander in workforce intelligence hits the big 5-0 today. Lesley, you thought the team didn't know, but there's not much gets past them! I gather you're a big fan of the Bloody Marys and never miss a Christmas gig. Sadly, they aren't on YouTube, so your colleagues have picked [Never Forget](#) by Take That instead. I hear a birthday gin may be consumed tonight – enjoy!

Finally, Savannah Copland, a community nurse in Kemnay/Westhill, marries her beloved, James Kelly, tomorrow. For them, from all the gang in the Garioch community nursing team, [Marry You](#) by Bruno Mars.

You know the drill. If you're on shift this weekend, work safe. If you're off, you're off. Stay out of those inboxes! The brief will be back on Monday (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