

Thursday 30 May 2024



Today we bring you [the second "Ask Adam" staff Q&A session](#) with interim NHS Grampian Chief Executive, Adam Coldwells. Waiting times and finance pressures are top of the list when it comes to this month's questions. Adam is also asked for updates on electric vehicle salary sacrifice schemes, plans to address ADHD & autism waiting and summer uniforms. As always, here are the time stamps to allow you to watch the sections of interest to you:

[00:43](#) What impact will finance challenges have on elective care?

[03:34](#) Why weren't the impact of finance restrictions communicated by Moray HSCP to staff before the media?

[06:34](#) Nursing concerns re reduction in the working week and the coming review of Band 5 nursing

[10:40](#) Future of the Drug & Alcohol Team

[13:25](#) Adam's thoughts on financial issues and hope for the future in NHS Grampian

[16:25](#) What to do when you disagree with advice from a corporate department such as HR

[22:01](#) What support is there for staff who are waiting for an ADHD diagnosis?

[26:44](#) What is being done to address autism waiting time especially for staff?

[30:05](#) Any update on the green car scheme mentioned previously?

[31:32](#) Any update on the summer uniforms Caroline Hiscox said she would look into last year?

[34:50](#) What difference does iMatter make?

[38:33](#) Why aren't Band 3s used to do observations etc when staffing levels are low?

[41:22](#) Are people using the Foresterhill Multi-Storey Car Park to help beat the new LEZ in Aberdeen?

[44:42](#) NIV Alerts not being followed for patients being admitted to hospital

More information on the NHS Grampian staff equalities network, including neurodiversity and their other work, is available here: [Staff Equalities Network \(nhsgrampian.org\)](https://nhsgrampian.org)

If you'd like to ask Adam a question or provide feedback, send an email to gram.communications@nhs.scot (Please indicate if you would like your question to be anonymous).

Change to COVID-19 testing guidance (Scotland) From next Monday (3 June) routine asymptomatic COVID-19 testing of people prior to their discharge from hospital to care homes and hospices will end. This reflects the effectiveness of the vaccination programme, availability of treatments, and a reduction in severity of illness.

Further information regarding this decision and consultations which took place [are available in this letter](#) from the Chief Medical Officer and interim Chief Nursing Officer (intranet link, networked devices only)

The COVID-19 protocol will revert to testing as appropriate to support clinical diagnosis and care and for outbreak management as per national guidance or advice from the infection prevention and control and/or health protection teams. Testing for treatments, where eligible, will continue to be available.

Please be aware the national guidance will only be updated, and previous versions archived, on Monday 3 June.

iMatter 2024 We are halfway through the iMatter questionnaire for 2024 and an amazing 8812 of you have responded. That works out at roughly 43% of those eligible, which is an amazing response rate. Your feedback really does matter, in your team, in your portfolio and for the organisation. You have until **5pm on Monday 10 June** to take part and have your say.

[A reminder you can find information and help videos on Turas here](#) (this will take you to the Turas log in page. Once signed in, the information resource will appear). Get in touch at gram.imatter@nhs.scot with any further queries.

Health and Social Care Moray/Moray Portfolio – temporary leadership Simon Bokor-Ingram is stepping down from his role as Chief Officer for Health and Social Care Moray and Moray Portfolio Lead; his final day will be tomorrow. In the short term, deputy Chief Officer Sean Coady will provide cover for both these roles. Interviews for an interim Chief Officer are planned for next week.

Access to Foresterhill Health Campus As per the global email issued earlier today, there will be overnight works taking place on Foresterhill Road between 8pm-6am tomorrow, Saturday, and Sunday. This means there will be **no access** for vehicles from Ashgrove Road West **except** blue light vehicles and buses. Access to the car parks and buildings along the loop road are from Westburn Road only. We apologise for the short notice and any inconvenience caused; these are urgent works by Scottish Water which cannot be delayed.

Grampian Guidance update It's been a year since Grampian Guidance migrated to Sharepoint. We're delighted to say we hit one million visits to the site this month. This includes around 16,000 unique users from NHS Grampian, Orkney, and Shetland.

With so many users, we need to ensure all guidance is accurate and up to date. If you are a document owner, [all you need to do is click this link](#). This will show you which documents need review, and which are up to date. Any documents in the red table are overdue and should be checked as a matter of urgency. For any queries, support or suggestions on how we could improve Grampian Guidance even further, email gram.guidance@nhs.scot

Low Emission Zone (LEZ) - Aberdeen The grace period for the LEZ in Aberdeen is coming to an end. Enforcement will begin on Saturday 1 June. The LEZ emission standards are based on the Euro emission standards, and are as follows:

- Euro 4 for petrol cars and vans
- Euro 6 for diesel cars and vans
- Euro VI for buses, coaches and HGVs

To check if your vehicle complies with the LEZ, [just click here and input your registration number](#). Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) will be issued to operators who send non-compliant vehicles into an LEZ. The PCN levels start at £60 and will increase if non-compliant vehicles are repeatedly sent into zones, rising to £420 for vans and £900 for HGVs. Much more information is available on the Aberdeen City Council website: [Low emission zone | Aberdeen City Council](#)

Seeking expressions of interest from services to create new centres of UK research excellence
We're inviting expressions of interest from clinical departments and services interested in supporting the Research and Development department in "shaping two new centres of UK-wide excellence by 2028". Interested? Email gram.randd@nhs.scot for a copy of the draft strategy. Expressions of interest should be in the form of a three-page concept note to be sent in no later than 16 June. Shortlisted applicants will be invited for further discussions with the Director of research and development.

There will be two workshops on 25 June (Suttie Centre, University of Aberdeen) and 17 December (Sir Ian Wood Building, Robert Gordon University) to develop and finalise a delivery plan for the R&D strategy. Both of these will take place between 10.30am-2pm. The ninth Grampian Research Conference has also been announced to take place on 4-5 October 2024 (ONE BioHub, Foresterhill). Email gram.randd@nhs.scot if you are interested to attend any of these events, especially if you are a current or potential applicant.

Tune of the day The Aberdeen Kiltwalk takes place on Sunday and whether it's the Wee Wander or the Mighty Stride, we want to wish the best of luck to everyone taking part. A little bird asked us to make a special mention of Stephanie Fraser, service support manager for the NMAHP bank. We hope you have good walking weather and remember your Compeed or micropore for blisters. [Step by Step](#) by Whitney Houston goes out to you all (sidenote, this was originally an Annie Lennox B-Side and you can *just* hear her on backing vocals in Whitney's reworked version) (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