

Thursday 31 October 2024

**Network Congestion Update** The planned upgrade to the Scottish Wide Area Network (SWAN) and internet connection was successfully completed last week, increasing our bandwidth to address network congestion issues. After a week of monitoring, the upgrade has proven effective, and teams can now resume video calls as normal. Thank you for your patience.

**Finance Q&A sessions – don't miss out** Anyone working in health or social care in Grampian is welcome to attend one – or more – of our upcoming finance Q&A sessions. Dates and times are below, to request the meeting invite and submit questions in advance, please email [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot) All sessions will be recorded and shared through this brief, so you can still send in a question, even if you are unable to attend.

- Monday 18 November - 3-4pm
- Wednesday 20 November - 10-11am
- Thursday 21 November - 12.30-1.30pm

Attached to the email used to send this brief is an update from the value and sustainability team. Please read this and share with colleagues.

**ICYMI - new process for digital requests** Although our digital 'pause' concludes today (31 October), demand is continuing to exceed available capacity. As highlighted last week, the mechanism used to request digital services will remain and this process will be overseen by a newly established Digital Board. [You can submit requests using this form](#) (intranet link, networked devices only) and the digital team has committed to review and respond to requests within 7 working days. Any questions or comments should be sent to [gram.chiefdigitalofficer@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.chiefdigitalofficer@nhs.scot)

**Application of AHP dementia policy in Grampian- survey closing soon** Our surveys on the application of the AHP dementia policy "Connecting People, Connecting Support" in Grampian will close on **Monday 4 November**. There are three categories, please see the links and QR codes below. If you fall into more than one category e.g., you work as an AHP and support someone with dementia personally, you can complete more than one survey. The survey for people living with dementia and those who support them [can be found here](#) or by scanning this QR code:



[AHP clinicians survey via this link](#) or scan QR code below:



[AHP managers' survey via this link](#) or scan QR code below:



**Car parking concerns** We continue to get regular reports of poor parking across all our sites. We want to remind everyone of the importance of abiding by all traffic management on all sites. Please only park in designated spaces. Do not park on double yellow lines or hatched areas. Do not remove traffic cones to park. These are in place to ensure emergency service vehicles can get prompt access when required and for the safety of all site users. Please respect blue badge and patient only spaces. If parking off site, show due consideration to our neighbours.

Concerns about parking by external contractors have also been raised; please be assured these are being picked up with the relevant project teams.

Our request to vary the planning conditions for the multi-storey car park at Foresterhill remains with Aberdeen City Council. In the meantime, the temporary arrangement, which allows staff parking from Level 6 and above remains in place.

**Diwali** This Hindu festival – the Festival of Lights – begins today. For those colleagues celebrating, may this Diwali bring joy, peace, and laughter to your home. Later this month (Friday 15 November) we'll be offering a special menu at the Orange Zone cafe in ARI. We've scheduled this celebration to allow anyone who may have travelled to celebrate Diwali with family and friends to also be able to enjoy this event.

**Tune of the day** It's Hallowe'en and it's pay day. If that doesn't make you strut like a well-choreographed zombie, then I don't know what will! [Thriller](#) is our tune of the day (this is the full 14-minute short film, it's still quite something 40 years on).

It's also Samhain, a Celtic festival which well predates Hallowe'en. The moon rises, the moon reflects, the moon sets. And the cycle begins anew... (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)