

Thursday 6 February 2025

Value & Sustainability update The latest newsletter from the Value & Sustainability programme is attached to the email used to send this brief. This issue details the progress made against some of our savings' targets, as well as explaining the '15 box grid' we use to report our work nationally. There have been some significant achievements in this area, which are to be celebrated. However, our financial position remains very challenging, as highlighted in the update going to today's board meeting, available here (along with all other board papers): [6 February 2025](#)

Financial Year End 2024/25 – deadline for new job requests, print & promotional materials ordering Any new job requests received by Marketing & Visual Communications (MVC) after **14 February** will not be processed until after the end of this financial year.

- Standard job requests received on or before 14th February will be processed as normal. However, all requests after this date will be processed at the start of FY25/26 unless otherwise approved by the Marketing & Corporate Communications Director and agreed with the MVC Head of Service.
- You should ensure enough time for any Publication Requirements Management Group (PRMG) processes to be completed.
- Under NHS Grampian's Standing Financial Instructions, payment for goods **cannot** be made without print/other media being delivered to Central Stores, checked, approved, receipted and invoices sent to Accounts Payable **before 31 March** (i.e. no pre-payment).

If you have any questions regarding timescales or would like to discuss an application, please contact gram.mvc@nhs.scot Thank you for your support and understanding.

SCI Store user security maintenance The way the upcoming version of SCI Store controls security to users is changing and as part of that, a housekeeping exercise is taking place to move all current user-based permissions in SCI Store over to a structured roles-based access control (RBAC) model. It's a behind-the-scenes process to tidy-up the current permission administration and users shouldn't notice any difference. The work is planned to commence on the 12 February and to be completed by 25 February. Access to SCI Store will be available throughout the planned work.

Any issues to your permissions access in SCI Store should be raised as normal through the IT Service Desk.

2023-24 Discretionary Points – applications open We are progressing the 2023-24 Discretionary Points round for all eligible consultants. Eligible consultants should have received an email invite. Applications must be checked for factual accuracy by your medical line manager and returned by email to gram.discretionarypoints@nhs.scot by 7 March 2025. More information can be found on the intranet page: [Pages - Discretionary Points](#) (networked devices only)

Today - International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) FGM denies women and girls their dignity, endangers their health, and causes needless pain and suffering, with consequences that endure for a lifetime. To mark the day, specialist midwife Jenni Smith has prepared [this article](#) on what a healthcare professional should be aware of and the key risk factors for women and girls being affected by FGM. It shows up mainly within maternity services - a 'lunch and learn' session with Jenni from last year [can be viewed here](#). Further information is available on the Public Protection [intranet pages](#) (networked devices only).

Diabetes Education Programme 2025 There is a packed education programme available this year, including an introduction to diabetes, along with more advanced aspects of diabetes care to increase knowledge and skills in supporting patients and their families living with diabetes. These courses are suitable for registered nurses, student nurses, healthcare support workers, and practice pharmacists. [You can see the full list of courses here](#) (intranet link, networked devices only).

Aberdeen City Council parking voucher scheme to end Aberdeen City Council have advised they are removing the option for using parking vouchers to pay for on-street parking from August 2025. A limited number of books are still available from ARI general office; once these are gone, they're gone. If you have purchased several books to have on hand, these must be used before 31 August 2025 as they will no longer be valid for use after that date.

On-street parking can be paid for at meters using the Paybyphone or RingGo apps. Please note, **none** of the council meters use QR codes for these services; any QR codes on meters are likely to be fraudulent and should not be used. If you have any queries about on-street parking (i.e., parking not on NHS sites) in Aberdeen you can contact parkingappeals@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Retirement mementos If a member of your team is preparing to retire, remember to order their official retirement memento! This contains a certificate, an enamel badge, and a crystal retirement paperweight. [Full details and a link to the request form are available on the intranet here](#) (networked devices only).

Ticket offer – Arena Cross at P&J Live Free tickets are being made available for this event, taking place at 6pm this Saturday (8 February). To claim yours, [simply follow this link](#). Terms and conditions apply, NHS Grampian is not responsible for and does not benefit from, any ticket offers.

Tune of the day - Time to Talk Day This is the nation's biggest mental health conversation. Advice on how to start a conversation, whether it's talking about your own concerns, or supporting someone else, is available here: [Talking Tips - Time To Talk Day](#). If you have something you want to talk about, but aren't ready to discuss it with family, friends, or colleagues, the Samaritans are available 24/7 on 116 123. Alternatively, you can call Breathing Space on 0800 83 85 87; their lines are open 6pm-2am, Monday-Thursday, and from 6pm Friday right through to 6am Monday. Our tune for today? [Talk Tonight](#) by Oasis (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