

Daily Brief...



Monday 26 February 2024

Day of Reflection – this Sunday The fourth annual Day of Reflection, remembering all those who died during the pandemic, will take place this Sunday (3 March). Previously held on the anniversary of the first lockdown, it was confirmed earlier this year it will permanently move to the first Sunday in March. The event is led by Marie Curie and more information is available on their website: [Day of Reflection 2024 | Marie Curie](#). All teams are supported to mark the occasion this Sunday, or in advance as suits your working pattern.

Clinical Board- A Clinical Engagement Forum for Everyone The Clinical Board was created to enable learning and recovery across our system and helps to strengthen links between professions and organisations. The group shares up to date data and information relevant to ongoing issues to provide members with awareness across the system while providing a supportive space. There is no obligation to contribute and no responsibility for decision making if you attend.

Who? Everyone is welcome to attend irrespective of role or seniority. There is no expectation to join the MS Team group as the link to the meeting can be shared widely.

When? Every 2 weeks via MS Teams, alternating between a Tuesday and Wednesday from 4.15-5.15pm. The next meeting is tomorrow (27 February). If you are interested in attending Clinical Board, please email gram.clinicalboard@nhs.scot and we can add you to the group or send out the meeting link.

It is thanks to the varied membership and their continued support and engagement which makes Clinical Board so worthwhile and means we can share information and perspectives in a positive space. We would welcome anyone who wishes to attend, and if you know anyone who may be interested, please pass this information on. If you would like further information regarding the origin of the group and what you might expect if attend, please watch this video: [NHS Grampian Clinical Board \(youtube.com\)](#)

ICYMI - consultation on 'Once for Scotland' Workforce Policies There is a national programme of work reviewing existing workforce policies with the aim to promote NHS Scotland as a modern, exemplar employer with consistent employment policy and practice. The next review phase includes the following policies: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion; Gender-based Violence; Facilities Arrangements for Trade Unions and Professional Organisations; Personal Development Planning and Performance Review; Employment Checks; Fixed-Term Contracts; Secondment and Redeployment.

Full information on the policies [is available in the consultation paper](#) (intranet link, networked devices only). Your views will shape the final policies. The consultation is open until 6 March; you can give your feedback here: [NHS Scotland Once for Scotland Workforce Policies 2024 \(office.com\)](#)

Aberdeenshire HSCP budget engagement Pam Milliken, Chief Officer for Aberdeenshire HSCP has recorded a short video talking about some of suggestions and questions staff from across the Partnership have raised as part of the AHSCP budget engagement process. The staff survey closes at midnight tonight (26 January) so there is still time – just - to give your views. The final budget discussions and decisions will be taken at the 20 March meeting of the Aberdeenshire IJB.

[You can watch the video here](#), the staff survey is available here: [Budget Engagement - Health and Social Care Partnership | Engage Aberdeenshire](#)

Meanwhile, the latest edition of the #TeamShire newsletter is attached to the email used to send this brief.

Holyrood Digital Health & Care Scotland Awards 2024 We were well represented at this event last week with Mark Burrell (Service Clinical Director, Oral & Maxillofacial and Oral Surgery) and former NHSG colleague Vicki Greig (now NHS Lothian), nominated in the Digital Health & Care Team category for their project 'Transformation of waiting times using remote consultations'. Mark and Vicki took a service redesign approach in 2020, incorporating Active Clinical Referral Triage, combined with Near Me video consulting, to safely assess and treat patients remotely. This resulted in the freeing up of capacity in clinical space for those who did not need to be seen in person, and a reduction in the travel required by patients. As a result, between April 2020 and October 2022, there was a reduction in first assessment waits from 72 weeks to 14 weeks.

Also shortlisted – and going on to win - in the Digital Service Transformation category was the national Connect Me Digital Blood Pressure Programme. This involves digital home blood pressure monitoring in primary care, releasing clinical capacity by reducing unnecessary face to face (F2F) appointments, and enhancing clinical decision making by improving access to optimal symptom information. Currently around half of all local GP practices are enrolled in the programme; since the programme went live in March 2021, the equivalent of 11,000 appointment slots have been released.

Grampian Cancer Care Network Professional Conference – final call Join us for this event at The Beach Ballroom on Wednesday 6 March, 8.45am - 3.50pm. Registration closes this Wednesday, so secure your place via the Eventbrite registration link included in the attached programme. For any inquiries, please contact gram.mcn@nhs.scot. Don't miss out!

FREE Dr Bike session (Foresterhill) Ride into spring with a free service for your bicycle, taking place on Wednesday 6 March, 9.30am-3pm, on the grass bank next to Ashgrove House. Booking is required, please email shona@lovetoride.net with your preferred time. Can't make that date? Shona can also advise you of other free sessions happening in Aberdeen over the next few weeks.

Pause for thought Sue Monk Kidd wrote: "Stories have to be told or they die, and when they die, we can't remember who we are or why we're here." What story would you like to tell? In keeping it alive what might you nurture?

Tune of the day The Royal Mint have issued a commemorative coin in memory of George Michael and that is all the excuse I need to make [Outside](#) tune of the day (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