

Here is the brief for Monday 1 February 2021.

**Chief Executive's update** This week Caroline has asked Susan Webb (Director of Public Health) to explain more about the opening of the largest mass vaccination centre in Grampian (there's more on this below as well). You can watch Susan's update [here](#). Remember, you can contact Caroline at any time via [gram.grampianchiefexecutive@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.grampianchiefexecutive@nhs.scot)

**Mass vaccination centre opens in Aberdeen** The first vaccinations have taken place at P&J Live, the home of the mass vaccination centre in Aberdeen. A significant amount of work took place to get the venue ready – our thanks to our colleagues at P&J Live – and the staff team have been 'hard at it' to get ready for today. Pictured below is 78 year old Violet Adams, who was the first in the queue for her injection this morning, receiving her first dose of the jab from clinic co-ordinator Chloe England:



**Vaccination staff recruitment** With the opening of the mass vaccination centre, and an expectation that the programme will now expand in scale from next Monday, there is a need to source a significant number of additional staff hours – equivalent to 85 x WTE over the next 8 weeks in the first instance. We are particularly looking for staff to work in Aberdeen City, and Aberdeenshire (Peterhead, Fraserburgh, Huntly, Banchory, Inverurie, Stonehaven, Macduff). We are keen to enable as many colleagues as possible to contribute to this. We recognise that it will require development of processes to accommodate as flexibly as possible the different types of contributions people can make, using this to supplement the availability of our substantive vaccinator workforce to which recruitment is ongoing. More information about this – and how you get in touch to offer staff hours – is attached to the email used to send out this brief.

**Community asymptomatic testing** As previously highlighted in this brief, NHS Grampian (and NHS Fife) are participating in a trial of extended asymptomatic testing into the community. We are working closely with our local authority partners to establish Community Asymptomatic Testing (CAT) centres in Peterhead, Old Aberdeen, Buckie, Lossiemouth, Forres and Elgin. The sites will begin offering tests from mid-February using lateral flow devices, which provide people with rapid results – typically around 30 minutes.

Around one third of people who have the virus don't experience any symptoms, so this is an important milestone in the expansion of Grampian's testing programme that may help us to contain and suppress the virus. Anyone testing positive with a lateral flow test will have their result confirmed using a PCR test so that they can self-isolate to help stop the spread. There will be further updates about this in future briefs.

**Grampian data** The local figures for today (and over the weekend) and the 7 day rolling positivity rate are shown below. If you click [here](#) you can visit the Public Health Scotland website, which includes neighbourhood figures for all local authority areas in Scotland.

	Daily number of new people tested	New cases in past 24 hrs	Daily no. of contacts isolated in past 24 hrs	Patients in hospital	Patients in ITU	Deaths in hospital
Sat 30/01	433	63	136	90	9	8 <small>5 deaths on 29/01/21; 3 deaths on 30/01/21</small>
Sun 31/01	528	38	53	85	9	0
Mon 01/02	416 <small>459 avg daily tested last 3 days</small>	45 <small>Up 7 from 31/01/21</small>	48 <small>Down 5 from 31/01/21</small>	86 <small>Up 1 from 31/01/21</small>	8 <small>Down 1 from 31/01/21</small>	0 <small>Last recorded death 30/01</small>
	<small>Tests reported from Illuminate up to 3pm on 30/01/21 NB tests refreshed daily due to lag in reporting</small>	<small>Reported by Scottish Govt up to 8am today</small>	<small>Reported from CMS up to 1530 today</small>	<small>Confirmed patients from Trakcare according to new definitions from 15/9</small>	<small>Confirmed from Trakcare as per SG definitions - excludes patients who were +ve &gt;28 days. ECMO patients included if flagged for COVID-19</small>	<small>Confirmed from Trakcare</small>

**7 day rolling positivity rate on 31/1**  
4.45%

**PPE donning and doffing training** This training is available every Tuesday at 11am, via Teams. You can book your space by emailing [gram.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.scot)

**End of Year Procurement of IT** Due to the significant demand and investment into IT equipment during 2020/21, eHealth is currently dealing with an increased volume of new IT equipment requests. These are being prioritised to support the IT requirements of Operation Snowdrop. There are also unavoidable increased lead times in the supply and delivery of specific IT kit due to global demand. Therefore there is **no guarantee** of any order being placed with them being received by the end of the current financial year, and costs may be charged to 2021/22 budgets. We will endeavour to procure and install any requested kit as soon as possible.

**Children's Mental Health week** From 1-7 February it is Children's Mental Health week. We have used this brief to talk a lot about the impact on the pandemic on our mental health, but it is also taking a toll on our children and young people. There are a range of resources available to support them, including those available on the campaign website [here](#).

**Endowment Fund rugby raffle winner** We had a great response to this, with over 400 entries received. We are delighted to say the lucky winner, chosen at random, is Audrey Morrison, Area Regeneration Supervisor at Turner Hospital in Keith

**Thought for the day** A huge thank you to Suzie Hutchison (team secretary for the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service) for providing the inspiration today's thought for the day, via the words of J.R.R Tolkien:

**Sam:** It's all wrong. By rights we shouldn't even be here. But we are. It's like in the great stories Mr. Frodo. The ones that really mattered. Full of darkness and danger they were, and sometimes you didn't want to know the end. Because how could the end be happy. How could the world go back to the way it was when so much bad happened? But in the end, it's only a passing thing, this shadow. Even darkness must pass. A new day will come. And when the sun shines it will shine out the clearer. Those were the stories that stayed with you. That meant something. Even if you were too small to understand why. But I think, Mr. Frodo, I do understand. I know now. Folk in those stories had lots of chances of turning back only they didn't. Because they were holding on to something.

**Frodo:** What are we holding on to, Sam?

**Sam:** That there's some good in this world, Mr. Frodo. **And it's worth fighting for.**

**Questions to ask? Information to share?** If you have particular questions – or are aware of questions coming from friends and family – please share them with us. We may not be able to answer every question and it may take us time to get a proper answer, but we will endeavour to respond and share the answers. You can get in touch with us via [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot). Please also use that email address if you have items for consideration for future briefs.