

Here is the brief for Monday 26 July 2021.

Chief Executive's update Professor Caroline Hiscox undertakes weekly site visits and has written the following update, reflecting on the feedback you've been sharing with her:

"As restrictions have begun to ease myself and other members of the executive team are making a concerted effort to get out and meet with as many of you as possible. Doing so allows us to see and hear exactly where the challenges are and where we need to focus our best efforts.

"One of the things I've heard loud and clear over the last few weeks is the sense of anxiety and concern there is about the sustained pressure being felt across our system. That pressure has followed so quickly on the heels of the second wave that we've all barely had time to take a breath.

"We shouldn't underestimate what we've all been through, it's been tough, it's been exhausting and what I want to get across today is that I have no intention of allowing the pressures we are all under just now to become the norm.

"At the moment it feels like everyone is doing their absolute best to manage the impossible, we can't stay there.

"Over the coming days, weeks and months, together, we need to make changes to move us from the impossible to the possible before winter.

"I don't have all the answers but will do everything I can to get you the support you need by ensuring we are as prepared as we can be.

"That means putting in place immediate short, medium, and long-term changes to limit the chance, for example, of things like what feels like the almost permanent state of code blacks we've seen at some of our hospital sites over the last few weeks.

"I need you to help us do that. You know what will make the difference.

"These plans will only be as good as the information we have though which is why we need your involvement and to hear from you directly. I will continue getting out and visiting people myself, not just at ARI, but across Grampian, but there will also be a lot of requests for your feedback coming through the daily brief, through your line managers in the weeks to come. Please get involved in those.

"As always, thank you again for everything you are doing, it is hugely valued and appreciated."

Remember, you can contact Caroline at any time by emailing gram.grampianchiefexecutive@nhs.scot
Caroline is pictured below on recent visits to Critical Care at ARI and with the Catering team at Royal Cornhill Hospital.



Self-isolation exemption As highlighted in Friday’s brief, changes are being made to self-isolation rules for close contacts of COVID cases to allow essential staff to return to work to maintain lifeline services and critical national infrastructure. A distinct process is being put in place for health & social care services. We have now received the detailed guidance on this and there will be further updates later in the week. **For the time being, all NHS Grampian employees required to self-isolate as close contacts must continue to do so.**

Grampian data Here is the local update for today (and over the weekend), including the 7-day rolling positivity rate. As a reminder, this rate is arrived at by dividing the number of positive tests in the past 7 days by the number of tests carried out in the past 7 days. Repeat tests are included in both categories. The figure for the “daily number of new people tested” is only for the number of tests for people who have not been tested previously.

	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 24/7	730	91	168	47	8	0
Sun 25/7	661	98	149	45	8	1
Mon 26/7	535	82	144	38	7	0
	642 avg daily tested last 3 days	Down 16 from 25/7/21	Down 5 from 25/7/21	Down 7 from 25/7/21	Down 1 from 25/7/21	Last recorded death 25/07
	Tests reported from Illuminate up to 3pm on 24/7/21 <i>NB tests refreshed daily due to lag in reporting</i>	Reported by Scottish Govt up to 8am today	Reported from CMS up to midnight	Confirmed patients from Trakcare according to new definitions from 15/9	Confirmed from Trakcare as per SG definitions - excludes patients who were +ve >28 days. ECMO patients included if flagged for COVID-19	Confirmed from Trakcare
	7 day rolling positivity rate on 24/7 5.25%					

A national update is available on the [Public Health Scotland daily dashboard](#).

COVID-19 vaccination programme Due to additional supply of the Moderna vaccine, we are running special, Moderna only, drop-in clinics at P&J Live from today (Monday 26 July), while stocks last.

Anyone aged 18 or over and still to receive their first dose and anyone awaiting a second dose of Moderna (it must be at least 8 weeks from your first dose) is warmly invited to attend.

Pfizer and Astra Zeneca appointments and drop-ins and scheduled appointments for Moderna will proceed as planned.

Moderna is only available at P&J Live. These clinics will run subject to available supplies - we will advise via social media if/when this opportunity will end. At busy times people attending may be asked to come back later. P&J Live is open 9am-6pm.

In addition, we have a number of community drop-in clinics in Aberdeen this week – at the Healthy Hoose (Middlefield), Seaton Community Church, and Elphinstone Hall (University of Aberdeen). These clinics are open to anyone over the age of 18, for first dose drop-in only. [Further information on these clinics is available on the NHS Grampian website.](#) The vaccine clinics in Aberdeenshire and Elgin are also open for 1st and 2nd dose drop in, as well as scheduled appointments. Please share this information with colleagues, family, and friends as appropriate.

Statutory and Mandatory Training Update Continuing improvement work on Statutory and Mandatory Training has been undertaken by a variety of NHS Grampian groups since March 2019, being mindful to balance staff health, safety and wellbeing, with their competence and confidence to deliver their role within the current service demands.

In addition to changes to corporate induction such as the “Welcome and Orientation Pack” for new staff, a review of existing Toolbox Talks has taken place by local Subject Matter Experts. The result of this work overseen by the NHS Grampian Health and Safety Expert Group is a reduction in the number of Toolbox Talks within the NHS Grampian Statutory and Mandatory Framework.

The Toolbox Talks that are being removed importantly continue to have their content available to staff in existing eLearning on Turas Learn. The training records for the Toolbox Talks will be archived and held for future reference. Electronic versions of the resource on Turas Learn and the intranet, will be removed. Staff will retain the record of any training they have completed in their learning history in Turas Learn.

Refresher periods for mandatory training are also under review and changes, once agreed via the GAPF Development subgroup, will be updated on the Intranet pages and Turas Learn.

Tune of the day It's a new week, but we are most definitely still in the cover versions groove. Natalie Christie takes control of the staff jukebox today and her pick is [Placebo's take on Running up the Hill](#). Whatever sort of Monday you have had, whatever kind of hill you have had to run up, we hope you can take a few minutes to stop and listen to this.

Get in touch! If you've got a question, an item to share with people working in health & social care, or just want to suggest a tune of the day, we want to hear from you! Drop us a line via gram.communications@nhs.scot.