

Core brief

Daily update

(4 November 2021, 2.45pm)

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Principles for Outpatients Consultations during COVID-19 – update on physical distancing in community settings

As a reminder, principles for 'Outpatient Consultations (Acute and Community) During COVID-19' were approved by the Strategic Executive Group on Monday 4 October 2021.

This guidance is intended to provide some principles to support outpatient consultations in all settings (hospital and community) to safely facilitate the presence and support of people who matter to patients wherever possible.

This is in line with the current person-centred hospital visiting arrangements in place in [inpatient wards](#) in NHSGGC, and takes into account the national guidance [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): outpatient and primary care consultations – principles](#) from Scottish Government.

The guidance was updated on Monday 1 November 2021, to reflect updated guidance from Health and Safety to continue two metres physical distancing measures in [community outpatient settings](#). Any areas that identify the need to reduce distancing measures from two metres to one metre, and fall within the scope of the new guidance, must ensure the completed risk assessment is approved by the relevant governance route.

The principles have been uploaded to the website and can be found [here](#).

Occupational Therapy Week (1-7 November)

We continue to support Occupational Therapy Week (1-7 November) with a [video from Shona Reeve](#), Occupational Therapist, who tells us about the work of the occupational therapy team within the Glasgow Alcohol and Drug Recovery Service.

Join in on [social media](#) and remember to tag @NHSGGC @theRCOT and @NHSGGCOTS



Home Energy Scotland

In line with our Staff Health Strategy, Health Improvement has built on a strong working relationship with [Home Energy Scotland](#) to enable NHSGGC staff to benefit this winter from free, impartial energy saving advice and support available from Scottish Government.



Providing access to this service now is relevant and timely. The weather has turned colder and the 'heating season' has begun, and with a lot of us still working from home, and at home for longer due to COVID-19, home energy bills are likely to have been on the rise.

Home Energy Scotland provides tailored advice to help people reduce their bills and create warmer homes, whether they own or rent their property. Friendly advisors can assist in a range of ways:

- Clear advice on ways to save energy and reduce fuel costs while staying warm at home
- Advice about grant and interest-free loan funding for heating, insulation and more
- Practical help if you find yourself without heating or hot water
- The latest information about extra help from energy suppliers.

Note: Home Energy Scotland has no connection with any energy supplier, and does not cold call.

We encourage all colleagues to take advantage of this opportunity by contacting Home Energy Scotland by one of the methods below. Staff can also take the [Home Energy Scotland](#) quiz for a chance to win £500 towards your energy bills by clicking [here](#).

Email: adviceteam@sc.homeenergyscotland.org quoting reference **NHSGGC** – an advisor will call/email back or freephone 0808 808 2282 – quoting reference **NHSGGC**.

The Home Energy Scotland advice line is open Monday to Friday 8am – 8pm and Saturday 9am – 5pm.

Your Hospital Live Arts Events

The Winter 2021 Live Arts Events are now online. The live arts programmer has worked with artists and performers – including NHSGGC Nurse Bill Millet – as well as a visual artist to create a unique selection of online screenings.

There is also a mention of the new QEUH Atrium exhibition, *Woven in Govan*.

Woven in Govan is a presentation of work by seven artists, highlighting the experiences of women during the Covid-19 pandemic and the historical burden of care placed upon women in society as a whole.

The Live Arts programme is [hosted on StaffNet](#) so keep checking for all the latest performance information and remember to share with your patients, family and friends.

Pollution Pods open for visitors

During COP26, Gartnavel Hospitals are highlighting the impact of air pollution on health through a unique art installation.

The Pollution Pods, by artist Michael Pinsky, are a series of geodesic domes whose air quality, smell and temperature safely and accurately recreate the pollution of five different locations on three continents: London, Beijing, São Paulo, New Delhi and Tautra, a remote peninsula in Norway.

The Pollution Pods will remain open to the public at Gartnavel Hospitals until Friday November 12, opening at 11am and closing at 4pm each day.

[Click here for more information.](#)

NHSGGC signs up to the Sustainable Glasgow Green Economy Charter

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde has signed up to the Sustainable Glasgow Green Economy Charter, demonstrating our dedication to Scotland's Climate Change Targets region in the face of climate change.

Climate change presents a major risk to our health and wellbeing, particularly for those already vulnerable. NHSGGC is committed to reducing our emissions and working together to influence positive behaviour change with our patients and planet in mind to achieve a net-zero future.

Gerry Cox, Assistant Director of Estates and Facilities, comments: "As the largest health board in Scotland, we are a major consumer of resources, with our size and scale presenting significant environmental impacts and challenges. We look forward to working alongside other organisations within Glasgow to ensure we can deliver the outcomes of COP26 and embed sustainable development as a core part of our NHS."

In signing the charter, NHSGGC pledges to affect significant and demonstrable change in the way we operate resulting in an accelerated reduction in carbon emissions in some of the following key areas:

- Reducing our emissions throughout our operations and supply chain
- Championing sustainable behaviour within our 39,000 staff and the 1.2 million people we serve through leadership, communication and influence
- Integrate sustainable travel, zero emission vehicles and improving active travel options
- Radically reduce emissions from our buildings and facilities.

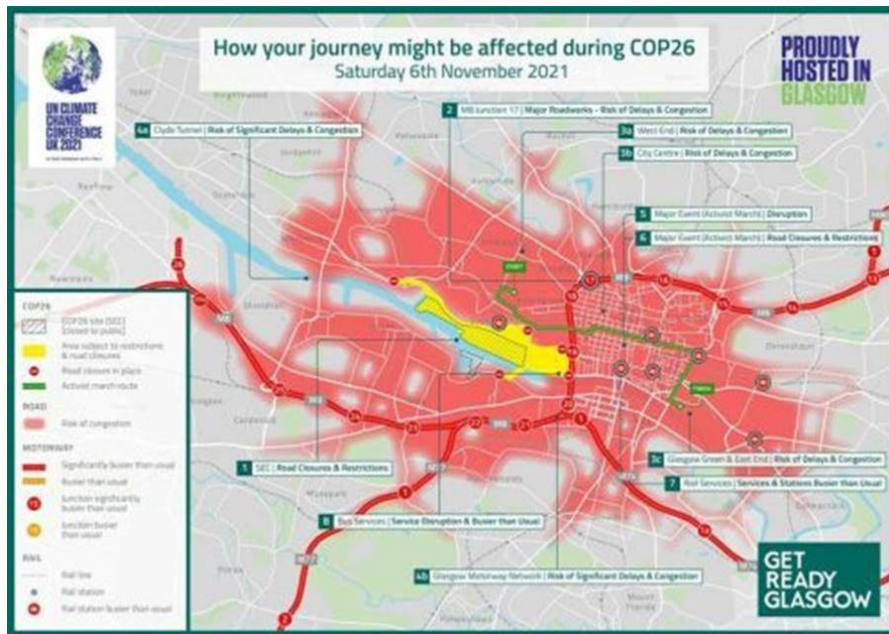
To find out more and view the charter visit: <https://sustainableglasgow.org.uk/>

Act now ahead of COP26 disruption

The COP26 Climate Conference continues until 12 November. Anyone travelling in Glasgow must now plan ahead to ensure reaching their destination in time. There will be a high level of disruption throughout.

There may be unscheduled protests which block roads or cause other significant disruption. The UN welcomes people making their voice heard and there are scheduled protests on Friday 5 and Saturday 6 November. More than 100,000 people could take part on the Climate March on Saturday from Kelvingrove Park to Glasgow Green through the city centre. City Partners have now decided that a large number of roads will be closed on Saturday from 5am to 6pm. This includes major thoroughfares from the west end through the city centre. Pedestrian access will be maintained and people will be able to cross roads, albeit negotiating their way through the procession. You can get the full list of road closures at www.getreadyglasgow.com

The anticipated, city-wide [congestion map](#) is highlighted below:



Please remember if you are intending to take part in any activism, then please be aware of the Board's advice with regard to personal conduct outwith work. You can find our policies here:

<https://www.nhsqgc.org.uk/media/244806/code-of-conduct-for-staff-october-2017.pdf>

<https://www.nhsqgc.org.uk/working-with-us/hr-connect/policies-and-staff-governance/policies/personal-use-of-social-media/>

Watch this video that details some of the expected impacts of COP26 and how you can get ahead: [\(77\) NHSGGC Staff - UN Climate Change Conference \(COP26\) Travel Information - YouTube](#)

Staff FAQs are available at: [NHSGGC: COP26 Climate Conference](#).

Remember to carry your staff ID with you at all times to access your own facility and any others you have to attend.

For a useful round-up on COP26 disruptions on the BBC website, visit: [COP26: How are road closures affecting Glasgow? - BBC News](#)

Please keep up-to-date with the latest guidance on our dedicated web pages at: www.nhsqgc.org.uk/covid19. If you have any questions about the current situation please check the FAQs first. If you have any further questions, please email: HR.Support@ggc.scot.nhs.uk.

Staff are reminded to make sure their [personal contact details are up to date on eESS](#).

It is important to share Core Brief with colleagues who do not have access to a computer. A full archive of printable PDFs are available on [StaffNet](#)