

# Core brief

**Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive**  
**(7 October 2020, 5.10pm)**

As you will have seen in recent weeks, the level of activity underway by our Test and Protect teams has been substantial. These teams play an important role in ensuring we reach all members of the public who may have COVID or have been in contact with someone who has. Their role is fundamental in ensuring we can reach these people as quickly as possible in an effort to stop the spread of this virus.

We have now welcomed a significant number of new recruits into our organisation to support the COVID effort. These teams are already making an impact and I would like to officially welcome them to NHSGGC. In order for these teams to come on board in such short order, we have a group of committed trainers and team leaders, who are working tirelessly to support our new contact tracers and I would like to personally thank them for their efforts.

Finally, you may now be aware of the new restrictions, announced by the Scottish Government today, which are coming into force in our region from Friday evening. Due to the number of reported cases across the Central Belt, parts of the hospitality and leisure industry will close for two weeks in an attempt to curb the spread of COVID-19.

Those living in Greater Glasgow & Clyde, Lanarkshire, Ayrshire & Arran, Lothian and Forth Valley areas have also been advised to only make essential journeys across Health Board boundaries and on public transport, such as to travel to work and school, etc., so I would like to reiterate our message that if you are able to work from home, please continue to do so. Mandatory wearing of face coverings in indoor settings such as staff canteens and corridors has also been announced and I am pleased to note that we, as a Board, have already implemented this across all of our sites.

I realise that the rise in the number of cases and changes to local restrictions may be causing staff some anxiety, but I would like to make sure that you are aware that as an organisation, we are committed to doing everything possible to keep you safe and supported, whether you are working on one of our sites or at home. However, please remember that only through everyone working together to combat the spread of this virus will we be able to make a real impact in driving the number of cases down. Social distancing and the wearing of face coverings, for those who can, are both absolutely vital and I would like to ask you all to please ensure you are doing all you can to help reduce the spread of COVID and keep yourselves, your colleagues and your families safe.

Thank you.

**It is important to share Core Brief with colleagues who do not have access to a computer.**  
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