

# Core brief

**Message from Professor John Brown CBE, Chairman**

**(11 September 2020, 11.45am)**

As you will have seen in recent days, the majority of our region is now under further restrictions, to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our communities. These changes have been the result of a rise in cases in our local areas, with more people testing positive and with the knock-on impact to their friends, family and work colleagues needing to self-isolate. Our organisation is not immune from this and we must, as a health service community, remember to follow the guidelines, especially concerning social distancing.

Our Test and Protect team has been steadfast in recent weeks, contacting cases, looking at transmission rates, liaising with businesses, Local Authorities and schools to ensure that members of the public are informed and understand the actions that are required of them to stop the spread. The scale of this task is vast. It is also essential. I would like to personally thank our public health team and our team of contact tracers on behalf of the Board for all of your efforts. We appreciate all that you are doing and the extra lengths you are going to, to ensure our public safety.

Against a backdrop of rising numbers of COVID cases in our region, I want to make sure that all of our staff are supported. I want to ensure that each of you has the opportunity to let us know where things are working well, but also raise any concerns you may have. We are currently undertaking the national Everyone Matters pulse survey, and I would like to encourage everyone to take part. Your opinion matters and I would like to hear it.

We are now moving into Autumn and flu season. We are currently bringing together a team of peer vaccinators to enable our staff to have the flu vaccination. Given the fight against COVID is still very much underway, I would like to ask that all staff seriously consider having the flu vaccination this year to help us keep not just ourselves, but our colleagues and loved ones safe and at a lower risk of getting the virus.

Finally, I would like to thank all colleagues, right across the NHSGGC region for their commitment to our health service during these challenging times. Please continue to support each other, socially distance and follow the guidelines for your local area.

Thank you.

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