

# Core brief

**Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive  
(16 December 2022, 1.30pm)**

We have, in recent days, continued to see the temperatures drop across NHSGGC and I would like to thank those of you who have been braving the snow and ice to come to work and care for our patients. A particular word of thanks must go to our Estates and Facilities teams for all you are doing to keep our sites safe for staff, patients and other visitors. With temperatures hitting lows of -10 degrees, estates colleagues have responded to a high number of maintenance calls, including frozen and burst pipes, and I am grateful to them for their prompt action and response.

As a result of the wintery conditions, combined with increased levels of flu, Covid and norovirus circulating in the community, our services are experiencing high demand. We also have a significant number of wards temporarily closed to new admissions on infection control advice. We have therefore once again appealed to members of the public not to visit our hospital sites if they are displaying symptoms of any of these viruses. We are also asking anyone who does attend the site to follow infection control guidance, and wear a mask and wash their hands. I also want to take the opportunity to remind colleagues that it is equally important for you to continue to take appropriate infection prevention and control precautions including good hand hygiene, ensuring you are wearing the correct PPE and following the uniform policy.

I want to pay tribute to Sarah McCann, Lead ANP at the Beatson Acute Oncology Unit who has sadly passed away. Sarah was a passionate advocate of Advanced Practice and had recently been awarded the 'Inspirational ANP', at the ACAP Scotland conference in November. Sarah will be missed, not only by her own team and colleagues in NHSGGC, but also by the wider Advanced Practice community in Scotland. My thoughts are with Sarah's family and colleagues at this sad time.

A huge congratulations to the orthopaedics team at the QEUH who have won this year's Golden Hip award. The QEUH team have been involved in Quality Improvement work for a number of years to enhance overall orthopaedic care involving multiple specialties from ED right through to rehabilitation services. The award is judged on performance in the 12 national hip fracture standards of care which is overseen by the Scottish Hip Fracture Audit group. A well-deserved award which demonstrates the real impact a focus on QI can have on services.

I would also like to congratulate Sandra Darwish and Robert Stuart who have become the first healthcare support workers (HCSW) in NHSGGC to complete the Open University Pre-registration Nursing programme. The programme provides a pathway for HCSWs to become registered nurses through online learning and assessments as well as practical placements. Following their qualification, Robert and Sandra have now taken up posts in the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital and Glasgow Royal Infirmary. Well done to you both, I hope you will be an inspiration to other colleagues considering applying for the programme.

I would like to bid a fond farewell to our colleague, Anne Harkness who has retired this week. Anne has been a member of the NHSGGC team since 1994, during which time, she has undertaken positions across the west, north and south of Glasgow city. Her most recent post was as a Director within the Public Health team,

where she was responsible for our vaccination programmes. I would like to thank Anne for her support over the years and wish her very well for the future.

This week, our patient feedback is about the team at the Dental Hospital. Our patient writes: "I just would like to make sure Hazel, who treated my daughter this morning, received some praise! My 12 year old daughter came in with trauma to her front teeth. This lady made my daughter feel safe, secure and comfortable. She was amazing with my child, explained everything and she dealt with my child's anxiety about injections. She was amazing, made my child feel safe and the trust was there for my daughter." My thanks go also to Hazel and the rest of the team at the Dental Hospital, for the reassurance you provide to your patients as well as the exceptional quality of care. Thank you.

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