

# Core brief

## Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive

The response that has already been required of staff in the face of the fast moving COVID-19 situation has been immense. These are challenging and difficult times for us all and the commitment and professionalism shown by everyone is admirable and hugely appreciated. I want to thank everyone for working hard under these trying circumstances.

I know that colleagues are concerned about how we manage the impact of COVID-19 on our services over the weeks ahead. We have now formally set up operational, tactical and strategic groups as required within our emergency planning processes to manage our response and the Strategic Executive Group, which I chair, meets regularly to provide leadership and direction.

There has been a lot of discussion about postponing elective activity and the Cabinet Secretary has confirmed that this is one of the actions that will be required across NHSScotland. All Boards have been asked to complete an overall mobilisation plan for submission to the Scottish Government this Wednesday. This will cover the whole system to ensure appropriate plans are in place across all of our workforce including primary care, community and acute services. These plans will enable Scotland as a whole to agree the approach that will be taken to scaling down and re-phasing non-urgent care as part of the response to the current situation.

We do recognise and agree with the necessity to re-profile our elective programme as a matter of urgency to enable the training of staff who may be redeployed to other clinical areas and to reduce the burden on our critical care facilities. We have therefore agreed to begin a scale down of the elective programme in a planned way from today.

We continue to closely monitor stocks of personal protective equipment and are working closely with the Scottish Government to ensure all departments have the appropriate allocation. The Procurement Team received a delivery of face masks and fit testing kits which were distributed on Friday and further supplies will be issued this week. Supplies of protective equipment have also been distributed to Boards for onward distribution to GP practices.

Finally, the online information resources that have been created for staff, primary care services and the public continue to be updated with new information as it emerges. I would urge all of you to make sure you go onto these COVID-19 web pages [www.nhsggc.org.uk/covid19](http://www.nhsggc.org.uk/covid19) frequently to ensure that you keep up-to-date with the latest guidance.

If you have any specific questions you should discuss these with your line manager. Alternatively you can put these to colleagues by emailing [staff.covid19@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:staff.covid19@ggc.scot.nhs.uk). Through this period we will continue to provide regular briefings on key issues and so I would ask everyone also to read the core briefs and updates that are sent to you.

Once again, many thanks to all staff in NHSGGC for all your efforts and team work at this time.

**Jane Grant**  
Chief Executive



## Please remember to wash your hands

Follow the correct hand washing procedure  
[www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus](http://www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus)



The diagram illustrates the five steps of handwashing: 1. Wetting hands with water. 2. Applying soap and lathering. 3. Rubbing hands together, palm to palm. 4. Rubbing hands together, back of hand to palm. 5. Rinsing hands with water.

Are your contact details up-to-date? [Click here](#) to check