

# Core Brief



## **Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive (17 November 2023, 12noon)**

I would like to update staff about the progress of the national NHS Scotland Assure survey on NHSGGC buildings, which is being carried out to determine whether Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) is present. The work began earlier this week, and to date, the team have surveyed the Complex Sub Station and Boilerhouse at Inverclyde Royal Hospital, the Aranthrue Centre, Linwood Health Centre, Bishopton Health Centre and Dumbarton Health Centre. I am pleased to advise staff that there was no evidence of RAAC in any of these buildings. In the coming weeks, there will be more survey work undertaken, with Gartnavel General Hospital, Stobhill Hospital, Lightburn Hospital, Glasgow Royal Infirmary and the Royal Alexandra Hospital making up the majority of areas being surveyed next week. I would like to thank staff for your cooperation with the NHS Scotland Assure work to date. If you would like to find out more about the areas being surveyed, please visit our [website](#).

On Wednesday, we welcomed the Scottish Government Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport, Maree Todd MSP, to the Rowanback Clinic. The team did a great job in providing insight to the Minister about the National Medium Secure Service for learning disability offenders, which the clinic provides, along with the other services the Rowanback team delivers, including rehabilitation facilities and a community centre, which is a communal resource for patients and staff. I would like to thank the team at Rowanbank for supporting the Minister's visit.

I would like to officially welcome Katrina Heenan, to the new post of Chief Risk Officer with NHSGGC. Katrina took up the post last month and brings with her a wealth of Risk Management leadership experience in both Private and Public sector, including Nuclear Decommissioning. Our Chief Risk Officer is responsible for achieving high standards of Risk Management for the Board, which includes the review and implementation of our Risk Management Strategy and Risk Registers. Katrina will be working with teams to provide support and guidance as well as carrying out training and awareness of the Risk Registers held within DATIX, which is a hugely important issue for NHSGGC. If you would like to find out more information on our Risk Management arrangements, please visit our [intranet](#).

I am delighted to share with you that the NHSGGC administration staff team won the Learning & Development Award of the Year at the HR Network Awards 2023. The award was for the Professional Administration Transformation Programme, and the team beat off stiff competition from over 400 nominations, which is testament to the success of the programme and the hard work the team have put in to deliver a new and effective way of working. Congratulations to the team for your very well deserved award.

Disability History Month began yesterday and will run until Saturday 16 December. It is an important way to celebrate and raise awareness of the contribution that colleagues with disabilities make to NHSGGC, but also raise awareness of the challenges they face. Over twenty percent of the population have some form of disability or long-term condition, many of which are not visible, but all of which can impact daily living. Throughout the month, our Disability Forum will be hosting a variety of events and activities to celebrate Disability History Month and our staff with disabilities and I would like to encourage staff to get involved in local events so that together we can build a more inclusive and equitable workplace for everyone.

This week, our patient feedback is about the care received in the Cardiac Rehabilitation Unit at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital. Our patient writes: “I had a heart attack just over six months ago. This was nothing more than a mild uncomfortable feeling in my chest accompanied by sensations in my left arm, however due to nature of my job I recognised the symptoms as being heart related and therefore attended at the A&E at QEUH. It was confirmed then that I had in fact had a heart attack and was transferred to the Golden Jubilee Hospital in Glasgow where I had two stents inserted into two arteries to resolve the matter. I stayed in hospital for several days. This immediately resulted in big changes for me as I had to realise that I now I had this condition which required daily medication of several tablets morning and night. I was also aware that preventing any further situations that could bring on another attack was something I would now have to work at, but wasn't sure how or where to start. I was very fortunate to be referred to the Cardiac Rehabilitation Unit at the QEUH Glasgow, where I immediately started a programme to assist me learn more and get fit to aid my recovery.

“Under the specialist team of the three cardiac Physiotherapists Theresa, William and Patricia, I was made to always feel that I was in a very friendly and welcoming environment, where they genuinely cared about my recovery and were very interested to get me through the road ahead. I always felt being at the rehab unit, be it either in hospital gym doing fitness classes, or walking group, or the gym at Bellahouston Park, made me feel more reassured and motivated to get fit and be part of the group that had a common goal, which was to recover from this. Over several months I got so much fitter and looked better, and this helped my overall confidence deal with many aspects associated with aftermath of heart issues. I learned so much about how to exercise properly and about all matters heart related that helped me understand so much more about how to continue to prevent similar

event happening again. The Unit also arranged a dietician and psychological consultations as well as liaising with cardiologist and my occupational health department of my employer to continually review my needs, which I found most helpful and very beneficial. On completing the rehabilitation course I felt better equipped to deal with all the aspects of having experienced my heart issue, something I could probably not have done so very well or fully appreciated without this service. The Cardio Rehab Unit at QEUH is very professional and provides the reassuring care that everyone needs after such a heart event, with the staff there, very interested and helpful to make a difference to your recovery. Even after my discharge I still have opportunity to go to lectures and inputs at the department regarding heart issues that would be beneficial to me. This is the caring way you are treated. You are not just another face in the crowd, you are made to feel as an individual and your recovery is a priority, tailored to your individual needs and condition. I would certainly recommend that anyone, just after experiencing cardio problems, be referred to the unit and take this brilliant opportunity to go along and be involved. This will make a huge difference to how they will feel in recovering from all the issues that will be aftermath of such an event. Theresa, William and Patricia, made all the difference helping me while I was there and I have seen how they helped so many others that also left feeling so much better from the experience of being involved in the unit.”

I would like to thanks Theresa, William and Patricia for their excellent work, supporting and working with this patient, which has resulted in a great outcome. Well done.

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