

# @core brief

**Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive  
(2 August 2024, 4.45pm)**

I would like to start with a warm welcome to all 277 new junior doctors who have joined NHSGGC to begin their careers across our hospitals and healthcare facilities. These new colleagues will play a critical role in the future of the NHS and will undergo a rigorous induction process in the coming weeks.



I wish you all good luck as you begin your careers. I'd also like to thank the recruitment team for managing this process and for their role in our nursing recruitment campaign, which has just seen more than 700 appointment offers distributed to Newly Qualified Nurses. Well done to everyone involved.



NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and NHS Lanarkshire came together this week for a first-of-its-kind joint seminar on taking positive action against Islamophobia. The seminar, delivered by the British Islamic Medical Association (BIMA), marks a new approach towards even closer collaboration between the two health boards.

NHSGGC Chair, Dr Lesley Thomson KC, alongside a number of Board members, myself and colleagues from NHS Lanarkshire, were able to learn more about how we can ensure the NHS is a welcoming and discrimination-free environment for Muslim patients and staff. My thanks to everyone who was able to attend this seminar.



As part of our Sustainability and Value campaign, which aims to help ensure as a Health Board, we're able to live within our means by working smarter and greener, a new taxi booking system will come into effect from Monday. This system will help us minimise unnecessary spending on taxis and couriers. It will be implemented across the Health Board, and instructions on how to access the new system were included in Monday's Core Brief. Reducing taxi and courier expenses is one of a number of initiatives we are rolling out, and we encourage staff to take part in these efforts to create a healthier balance sheet for now and for the future.

This week has also seen the launch of a Board-wide Medicines Waste campaign, which aims to reduce the amount of medicine wasted through over-ordering or being discarded. In monetary terms, medicine waste costs NHSGGC £100,000 every day. Our campaign seeks to inform the public about taking control of their medication, resisting the temptation to over-order, and encouraging the best methods of disposing of unused medicines. A dedicated resource for staff and the public is available [here](#), and I encourage everyone to get behind this campaign, as smarter management of medicine waste benefits NHSGGC, the wider environment, and ultimately, the health of the population.

I would like to highlight the publication of the new Fairer NHSGGC report for 2024-2025, which sets out how we will meet the requirements of equality legislation as a Health Board. This report underpins our commitment to making all of our services across NHSGGC as fair and equitable as possible, and how we tackle the challenges presented by the pandemic. I urge everyone to visit the dedicated webpage to read the summary, which is available on our website [here](#). The webpage also provides information on how we're using a new frontline equality assessment tool to help identify areas where we can take positive action for patients with protected characteristics.

Finally, I would like to extend my thanks to the Ward 56 team and the rest of the staff at the GRI who were involved in looking after this person's loved one with the care, compassion, and professionalism that defines NHSGGC for many patients:

"My mum was admitted as an emergency to Glasgow Royal for one condition and, long story short, after a haemorrhage, she was transferred to Princess Royal Maternity Hospital Ward 56 Gynaecology and subsequently told that she had cancer. After further investigation, we were told it was terminal. She died only 3 weeks after the initial suspicion. As you can imagine, it was deeply traumatic and we are devastated, so it's taken me a while to write this. However, I want to put on record the amazing care she received from the nursing and healthcare support team. They were so kind and compassionate, and nothing was too much trouble. They also made her laugh and supported her when she cried. Truly, this is what good care is.

"I'd also like to mention the speech and language therapy team who helped with her swallowing difficulties, physiotherapy, tissue viability, the hospital chaplain Paul, and all the support staff such as porters, catering, and cleaning—every single one is a credit to the NHS. And, of course, the medical staff who were there to help me with all the questions I had and, along with the nursing staff, to ensure my Mum's pain was managed. With their support, Mum's last hours were peaceful, and for that, I am so thankful.

"There are no words for how hard it has been to lose my Mum. She talked about what a difference these many staff members made to her—and they made such a difference to me too, at what was the worst time in my life. I left the ward on the day she died really feeling that Mum had touched their lives just as they touched hers. Thank you x"

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

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