

Core brief

Report from December meeting of the NHSGGC Board (20 December 2024, 11am)

The Board of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde met on Tuesday, 17 December 2024. The full set of papers are [here](#).

This summary sets out key decisions and issues considered at the meeting.

Chair and Chief Executive Reports

The Chair, Dr Lesley Thomson, KC, opened by recognising and thanking the Chief Executive, Mrs Jane Grant, for her significant contribution to NHSGGC and the wider health service over the years, ahead of her retirement in January 2025.

Dr Thomson highlighted emerging issues raised by Healthcare Improvement Scotland relating to staff pressures. She acknowledged the significant challenges faced by staff and reassured them that their concerns are being heard. To address these concerns, the January Board Seminar will be extended to a full day which will include a dedicated focus on staff wellbeing. The Chair emphasised the importance of embedding Civility Saves Lives (CSL) principles and referred to recent Core Brief videos from the Medical Director and Executive Nursing Director. A further communications campaign to reinforce CSL is planned for the New Year.

The Chief Executive, Mrs Jane Grant, expressed her gratitude to the Chair and the Board for their good wishes, offering personal thanks to Leanne Law and the Executive Team for their support. She also provided an overview of key priorities, including work underway to mitigate the financial challenges faced by NHSGGC. She reported on a meeting with the Scottish Information Commissioner's Office (SICO), highlighting the positive progress being made on Freedom of Information (FOI) performance. Mrs Grant continues to attend meetings on national pay awards and the Best Start programme. The Chief Executive also reflected on the recent Annual Review and key performance metrics for 2023/24.

Patient Story

Professor Angela Wallace, Executive Nurse Director, introduced the latest [patient story video](#). This month's video featured Cath, an inspiring patient working with Community Specialist Respiratory Physiotherapy Therapist, Joanna Ford, in East Dunbartonshire's HSCP. Cath's proactive management of her COPD has enabled her to return to work following an acute admission.



Winter Plan – Update

NHSGGC Medical Director, Dr Scott Davidson, provided an update on the implementation of the Whole System Winter Plan, which was agreed at the October Board meeting. The report highlighted the importance of recognising urgent care as a collective responsibility, particularly in relation to the whole-system approach required to improve patient flow through acute sites.

Dr Davidson noted that an additional action plan had been submitted to the Scottish Government, aiming to further reduce acute bed day pressures with a focus on reducing bed occupancy and length of stay. This plan will support emergency departments, enhance inpatient flow, and improve the overall patient experience. He also stressed the importance of encouraging vaccination uptake among both staff and the public to help ease winter pressures on the Health Board.

You can read the full report [here](#).

NHSGGC Anti-Racism Plan

The Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development, Anne MacPherson, and the Interim Deputy Director of Public Health, Beatrix von Wissmann, presented NHSGGC's response to the Cabinet Secretary's statement on the development and implementation of anti-racism plans across Scotland.

The anti-racism action plan outlined the positive work already underway in partnership with the BME network, as well as proposed plans for 2025/26. The Equality and Human Rights Team within Public Health will lead the anti-racism plan, with workforce-related actions led by the Staff Experience Team in the Human Resources and Organisational Development Directorate. The plan will also involve the Corporate Communications Directorate to ensure public and staff awareness.

The Board approved the paper, which can be viewed [here](#).

NHSGGC Climate and Sustainability Strategy Annual Update

Professor Tom Steele, Director of Estates and Facilities, and Head of Sustainability, Martin Johnston, presented the annual update on NHSGGC's Climate and Sustainability Strategy. Key successes included the expansion of green spaces, growth in the electric vehicle fleet, and a reduction in petrol and diesel-fuelled vehicles.

The success of the Green Theatres Programme was also highlighted, including the decommissioning of nitrous oxide manifolds and awareness campaigns around heating, ventilation, and clinical waste minimisation. These efforts contribute to the Board's sustainability agenda and support progress towards its environmental targets.

You can view the full strategy [here](#).

Obesity Prevention and Early Intervention for Type 2 Diabetes – Annual Update

Beatrix von Wissmann, Interim Deputy Director of Public Health, asked Linda Morris, Programme Manager, to provide the annual update on the impact of weight management initiatives, including the HENRY approach, and early interventions for Type 2 Diabetes.

Key discussions focused on the cost-of-living crisis and its impact on affordability of a healthy diet and population levels of obesity, alongside the ongoing need for staff and family support and education. Several locally funded projects aimed at supporting the most deprived areas were also highlighted.

You can read the full paper [here](#).

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

A full archive of printable PDFs are available on [website](#)