

Core Brief



Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive (20 October 2023, 12.30pm)

Many of you, like me, will have had to scrape your car windscreen as you left the house this week, a clear sign that winter is on its way. Whilst our services are very busy all year round, every winter we face additional challenges within health and social care services. Along with colleagues, the senior team are very focused on preparing for winter and dealing with the increasing pressures that are already being felt.

Our winter planning started very early in the year and sets out a series of actions that will be taken across our whole system, prioritising measures which will have most impact. A winter recruitment campaign is underway, with some early positive results. There remains a focus on discharging patients ready to go home, including those whose discharge has been delayed. Our vaccination programme is making good progress and we are finalising our winter campaign and messages to support patients to use services appropriately over winter. There is no doubt, however, that this will be another challenging winter and I want to thank you all for your continued dedication to our patients and your support for one another.

The Independent Inquiry into the circumstances leading to the tragic death of Margaret Fleming, published on Wednesday, made some important recommendations for agencies involved with vulnerable people. These included the need for all agencies to understand how to share information timeously to ensure vulnerable people are protected and the importance of checks which balance people's rights to privacy with a clear need to protect vulnerable people who need to be seen. Along with our colleagues within the Health and Social Care Partnerships, we will now consider the recommendations and any learning for NHSGGC. If you would like to read more about the work of the Inquiry, the full report can be read here: www.inverclyde.gov.uk/sites/margaret-fleming.

Each year, all NHS Boards have an annual review to hold the organisation to account for its delivery against their Annual Delivery Plan. The NHSGGC Annual Review will be held on Monday, 13th November 2023 from 1.00pm to 2.00pm in the Lecture Theatre at the Teaching and Learning Centre, on the QEUH campus. The event will be opened by the Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care, Michael Matheson MSP and will include a presentation from the Chair,

Professor John Brown, CBE and a Q&A session with the audience. You can find out more about our Annual Review, including details of how to register, on our website at: <https://www.nhsggc.scot/annual-review-2022-2023/>.

One of the important priorities for the organisation is our Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy. I was pleased to see progress being made this week in our commitment to working towards net zero emissions with the delivery of a fully electric 16 tonne truck for use in the transportation of linen from our central laundry to our hospitals. The first of its kind to be used by any health board in Scotland, the electric truck is one of two joining the NHSGGC fleet. I would like to thank our transport and sustainability teams for the strides they continue to make in tackling climate change.

Following on from last week's Core Brief, I am pleased to report on further awards success for staff. The 2023 Glasgow Times community champion finalists have been announced and a number of our colleagues have been recognised. These are: Glasgow Royal Infirmary's neonatal nursing team; retired mental health nurse Linda Doonan; Royal Hospital for Children senior staff nurse Charlotte Picken for leadership in the creation of a theatre recovery nurse initiative; and, the Alcohol and Drugs Recovery Service nursing team. Congratulations to you all and good luck! To find out more, including how you can vote for the finalists, go to: <https://www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/news/23852604.glasgow-community-champions-2023-vote/>

This week, I am delighted to share feedback which demonstrates person centred care at its best. The feedback comes from the sister of a patient who attended Royal Alexandra Hospital. She says: "My brother is visually impaired, wears hearing aids and has a Learning Disability. The staff within ward 20 were absolutely wonderful to him and myself. The Doctor, Ryan (I think), chatted to him on admission and started the discussion at what would be happening to him - simply and just enough information for him to process his upcoming surgery.

"The anaesthetist was so kind to him discussing options with him and ensuring he understood the risks and benefits of the anaesthetic - the nurses in theatre enjoyed some of his humour. I really don't think he would have had any better care if he was being treated by the family. The surgeon explained the procedure really well to him and was respectful to him.

"The nursing staff were great with him and helped him with explaining things too - he was pretty anxious at the beginning and they helped reassure him. All in all I'm so proud of the way my brother was treated - with respect and dignity. Hopefully we won't need to see them again, however, I wanted to say thank you to them all. They made this situation much easier to manage."

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