

Core brief

Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive
(22 July 2022, 1.15pm)

I would like to begin by recognising all of our staff who have been working during the hot weather this week. While we are fortunate that we have not seen some of the sweltering temperatures experienced by other parts of the UK, the increase in temperatures across NHSGGC have given our teams challenges in terms of keeping our patients and buildings cool. Thank you to all of our

clinical teams for the additional support and attention you have given our patients and their loved ones to ensure they are as comfortable as possible, despite having to work in much warmer conditions yourselves. I would also like to thank all of our Estates and Facilities teams for the work you have undertaken to keep our facilities cool, which I realise is a challenge in some areas. Well done and thank you to you all.

This week, we are also starting to see a very gradual decline in COVID patient numbers. While we continue to have around 500 patients in our care who have received a diagnosis in the past 28 days, I am hopeful that we are starting to see a downward trend. The number of patients in our ICUs also remains low, which is encouraging news. I would like to thank all staff for their perseverance during this COVID wave, your support and dedication is very much recognised and appreciated.

I am pleased to inform staff that a Public Health Scotland (PHS) report, which looked at the COVID-19 outbreak at a halls of residence which housed University of Glasgow students at the start of the autumn 2020 term, gave a particularly positive account of the work of our Public Health team. More than 1,000 students were impacted by the outbreak, but as a result of the close working relationship between our staff, Environmental Health, the university, PHS and the students themselves, the outbreak was quickly contained. Genomic sequencing of the outbreak, combined with epidemiological information has provided deep insight into the incident, which gave a strong indication that the infection spread was a result of social activity and gatherings associated with Freshers' Week. This is a clear example of the incredible forensic work that our Public Health team undertakes to ensure that every possible step is taken to mitigate the risk of outbreaks and I am very grateful to you all for the work you do to protect our communities. Thank you.

I was delighted to see patients from the Spinal Injuries Unit at the QEUH enjoying a wonderful day out at Castle Semple Loch in Lochwinnoch on Wednesday. The annual event gives wheelchair users a chance to take part in adventure sports and, though it had to be paused because of the pandemic, everyone involved was delighted that the fun could be resumed this week. Supported by our own staff and volunteers from Spinal Injuries Scotland, patients enjoyed a range of exciting activities both on water and on land, as well as crafts and games – all rounded off by a delicious barbecue. I would like to thank Spinal Injuries Scotland for arranging the event and to all of our staff who took part. We look forward to many more outings like these in future.

I'd like to share some feedback received about the team working on Ward 10 at the GRI with you this week. The family member of one of our patients who has been receiving end of life care wrote; "I wanted to pass on my feedback following my visit to see my stepfather, Reginald who is currently receiving end of life care on

Ward 10 at Glasgow Royal Infirmary. I travelled down from Inverness to say my goodbyes yesterday. I cannot express how caring and wonderful the staff were. Everyone from the ward staff to the palliative team dealt with my stepfather with such compassion, focussing on symptom management and making him comfortable. It was all carried out with great dignity and respect. I work in the advice sector for people living with cancer in the Highland region so have a lot of contact with patients receiving end of life care. I would have to say that I saw real excellence in your hospital yesterday and wanted to pass this on. First class nursing care which deserves to be recognised. Kind regards and thank you so much.” My thanks to all of the team for the support and kindness which you have shown this patient and his family. Thank you.

Finally, I am pleased to inform staff that Morag Gardner has been appointed to the post of Deputy Director of Nursing for Acute, following Angela O’Neill’s retirement. Morag is currently the Chief Nurse with South Sector, so brings a wealth of experience to her new role. I’m sure that staff will wish to join me in congratulating Morag on her appointment.

**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 the [website](#)**