

Core brief

**Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive
(4 October 2024, 12.05pm)**

This week is nationally marked as Speak Up Week, and I have been reflecting on this year's theme of 'enabling speaking up' and the great work undertaken by colleagues across the system throughout the year to support a culture of speaking up, which has been commendable. Creating a safe space for colleagues to raise concerns has been a focus for a number of years, and I am also pleased to welcome Brian Auld as the non-executive Whistleblowing Champion to support us further in shaping what this looks like for our staff.



I would also like to thank colleagues who have spoken up through our channels and for letting us know when things are not quite right. This is an important mechanism and one we are committed to embedding across our Health Board. You can find out more about the range of ways you can speak up on our Speak Up! intranet site [here](#).

Another key commitment we have as a Health Board is to ensure we communicate on key issues and listen to our staff in the most effective manner. That's why next week we are launching 'Team Talk'—a new, simple communications brief to promote conversation and feedback by distilling the four most important pieces of information we'd like you to be aware of and engaged with each month into a short, sharp brief to be discussed at team meetings or in another appropriate setting.

We're keen for all supervisors and managers to take 5–10 minutes per month to talk through Team Talk with staff, and we encourage you to provide feedback and suggestions about the items directly or via the dedicated new Team Talk email address which will be shared with the first edition.

I was delighted to attend our Annual Apprentice Celebration and Awards event last week, which seeks to recognise the important contribution apprentices make to our organisation. As well as supporting our current workforce, many will go on to develop long term careers within NHSGGC, and I'm thankful to all of our apprentices and the team involved in developing our training programmes.

Congratulations to all the remarkable winners and runners-up of this year's awards! Elle Dinning, Administration Assistant in Estates, won both the Wully Brodie Memorial Prize and the 1st Year Modern Apprentice award, with Lori Harkness recognised as runner up for the latter. Demi Lee Pollock, Pre-registration Pharmacy Technician, has been named Modern Apprentice of the Year, with commendable runners-up Megan Clenaghan, Anna Sau, and Robbie Slee. Recognition also went to Abbie Jamieson, Coordinating Supervisor in Estates, for her role as Mentor of the Year, and Nadine Gray, Pharmacy Technician Team Lead, for her excellence as an Assessor/Trainer. Finally, congratulations to Carol Neilson, Senior Pharmacy Technician in the Pharmacy Education Team, for her dedication as this year's Ambassador. Well done, all!



I'd also like to take the time to thank everyone who nominated an individual or team for this year's National Health Awards.

A special Reader's Choice winner is now open to the public vote, and you can cast your own vote [here](#). Other finalists will be announced in coming weeks and the winners will be revealed at a ceremony in November. Good luck, everyone!

And finally, I'd like to share some fantastic feedback regarding Dr Roger Wong at the Brownlee, who has clearly had a very positive impact on this patient's wellbeing:

"A thank you would never be enough to express my gratitude to all the staff for all the hard work and support they provide at the Brownlee at Gartnavel, but I want to thank one person in particular, and that is Dr Wong. For years now, I have suffered

with my mental health — the cause I will never really know or understand — but most recently, in the past couple of years, it took a big turn for the worse. I was receiving care in the community, but it just wasn't working out, so I went to the Brownlee. Within a couple of months of seeing Dr Wong, he has done more for me than anyone has ever done. He has listened to me, seen exactly what has been going on, and managed to get me on the right treatment plan, and I have never felt better. I'm not saying he's cured me, but he has got me back to feeling like life is normal and calmer.

“Dr Wong is honestly one of a kind and a doctor who is an asset to the NHS. He reminds me that there are still good people out there and people who do actually care about their patients. I honestly don't know where I would be or would have been if he hadn't been there, and honestly, if anyone deserves recognition, it's got to be him.

“So this is a huge thank you to the Brownlee for always being there, but more so to Dr Wong for what you have done for me — you have given me hope once again.”

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

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