

# Core brief

## **Daily update**

**(9 January 2024, 10.45am)**

Topics in this Core Brief:

- Update from the Area Partnership Forum

## **Update from the Area Partnership Forum**

The Area Partnership Forum (APF) provides staff, through their Trade Unions and professional organisations, with a forum to engage formally with NHSGGC as an employer. This ensures that staff views can be raised and can influence the work of our Health Board. This is a key way in which the voice of our staff influences the way we work.

The APF operates jointly with senior leader representation from NHSGGC and Staff Side representatives from our recognised Trade Unions and professional organisations, who, together, work in partnership to the benefit of our staff and our patients.

Once a quarter, the APF focusses on NHSGGC strategic issues. These strategic APF sessions are jointly chaired by the Employee Director, Ann Cameron-Burns and the Chief Executive, Jane Grant.

The most recent Area Partnership Forum Strategy meeting took place on 20 December 2023. A number of important matters were discussed at the Forum and the following is an overview for staff.

## **Finance Update**

Colin Neil, Finance Director, provided an update to the APF on the current and projected finance position. Colin provided an update that good progress had been made reducing the deficit in 2023/24; it was very important for the organisation to break even. An update was provided on projections over the next two years, with a range of financial challenges outlined. A finance plan is under development for submission to the Scottish Government in January 2024.

The APF discussed how the Forum can contribute to the work required in partnership to address future financial challenges.

## Microsoft 365 Update

Denise Brown, Director of Digital Services, provided an update on additional security measures being put in place. This will affect staff who are accessing M365 resources from unmanaged devices (devices that are not owned by NHSGGC) with copy and paste disabled and printing from unmanaged devices prohibited. Further communications will be provided to staff as these changes are rolled out.

## National Pay Update

Anne MacPherson, Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development, provided an update on national discussions related to the 2023/24 Agenda for Change pay deal. Working groups have been set up nationally through the Scottish Terms and Conditions Committee with further information to be considered in due course.

## Service Updates

At every APF, the Forum receives an update on current service activities. This ensures there is a shared understanding of key issues and provides staff partners with a chance to ask questions and raise any queries or issues from their members.

At this month's meeting, the following updates were provided:

- William Edwards, Chief Operating Officer, gave an update on how Acute Services are preparing for winter. This included increasing capacity from 3 January 2024, recognising that challenges remain in unscheduled care.
- Beth Culshaw, Chief Officer for West Dunbartonshire, gave an update on behalf of HSCPs. Beth outlined current challenges around delayed discharge in HSCPs and that there continues to be some pockets of Covid across communities, but these are currently manageable. Beth also outlined that there continues to be opportunities for vaccinations for staff.
- Anne MacPherson, Director of Human Resources, gave an update on workforce, noting that the number of staff with Covid has slightly increased over the last month. We will continue to promote vaccinations for front-line staff and encourage all eligible staff to take these up. Anne highlighted that the recruitment team are continuing to recruit staff for the winter additionality and bank.

\*\*\*Staff are reminded to make sure their [personal contact details are up to date on eESS](#).\*\*\*

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

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