

Core brief

Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive

(30 July 2021, 2pm)

Within the West of Scotland, significant work has continued throughout the pandemic to establish a regional trauma network and to prepare for the official opening of the West Major Trauma Centre at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital and Royal Hospital for Children on 30th August. The network will also be supported by six stand-alone Trauma Units, including two located at Glasgow Royal Infirmary and Royal Alexandra Hospital, while Inverclyde Royal Hospital will become a centre for excellence for elective surgery.

This network aims to improve the care of trauma patients from pre-hospital through to rehabilitation. Our Board has collaborated with the other Boards in the region and the Scottish Ambulance Service to develop this network which will improve outcomes for patients who suffer major, potentially life-changing, trauma.

As we enter the final stages of preparation for the launch of the network, I have been hugely impressed by what has been achieved by our teams, particularly within the context of the pressures created by the pandemic. This new way of working will deliver high quality, integrated, multi-specialty care to severely injured patients and save lives and everyone involved can be justifiably proud of their contribution.

As we continue to respond to the pandemic and a recent increase in cases in the community, I was pleased to see that the mental-health check-in is being re-launched for a third time. The check-in is designed to identify any wellbeing issues and enable staff to receive support from our Occupational Health Psychological Therapies team. Every questionnaire will be reviewed by our team of Clinical Psychologists and if needed, one of them will contact you to offer appropriate advice and/or refer you for treatment. I would encourage everyone to complete the questionnaire so that we can help you and put you in touch with services that can support you.

Finally, you may have noticed some new faces across our wards in recent days. No less than 252 new junior doctors are starting their placements across Greater Glasgow and Clyde and I want to welcome each and every one of our new FY1s to our NHS family.

Before starting their rotations, the newly qualified doctors are taking part in detailed online inductions, simulations and immediate life support training. I know for many, it will be good to get into the wards after the pandemic caused some disruption to the normal flow of studies and placements.

Our new doctors should be rightly proud of everything they have achieved to date and I am pleased that so many have chosen our hospitals for the start of the next chapter in their medical careers.

I hope all of you will join me in providing a warm welcome to our new FY1s to our teams across NHSGGC.