

Core brief

Daily update
(18 March 2021, 5.00pm)

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Staff Listening Service

NHSGGC has a number of services available to staff if they want to talk to someone and one of these is our dedicated Chaplaincy service.

The Chaplaincy service has launched the Staff Listening Service which runs from 9am to 10pm, seven days a week to help and support people. The Chaplains are able to offer staff up to four sessions, providing confidential, person centred, compassionate and impartial listening. During each one hour listening session staff are free to talk about whatever is on their mind, including issues that might be causing raised levels of stress at work or at home all the way through to support following a personal bereavement.

Any member of staff can access the service by calling the main Switchboard on 0141 201 1100 and ask to be put through.

The Chaplains are all trained in listening and some also have counselling training. We know that as we come out of the other side of this pandemic, staff will have headspace to open up and reflect on what their last year has been like. First and foremost the service will listen to whatever staff want to talk about.

Dawn Allan, Spiritual Care Lead Manager, said: “The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted on all our lives and while staff have excelled in supporting each other, we can be a sounding board, a place where people can off-load, vent or just talk, provide a safe, caring space to listen to staff who may have pent-up emotions, who may find talking helps relieve some of their tension and grief to feel more at peace so they can keep going despite the ongoing pressures and loss they have experienced.”

We encourage staff to use the service if they need to.

Appointment of Deputy Medical Director – Mental health and Addiction services

Dr Martin Culshaw has been appointed as the new Deputy Medical Director – Mental Health and Addiction services across the Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board area, with responsibility for all care groups and the six Health and Social Care Partnerships (HSCPs).

Martin brings with him a wealth of experience and has held a number of posts in General Adult Psychiatry, Forensic Psychiatry, Specialist Registrar posts as well as Clinical Director roles.

Martin will play a pivotal role in providing clinical leadership for mental health services including the implementation of the Mental Health Strategy, the Scottish Patient Safety Programme and Quality Improvement initiatives.

Dr Jennifer Armstrong, Medical Director, said: "I am delighted with Martin's appointment to this role. Martin has a long history working with mental health services in NHS GGC and I know his experience and knowledge of mental health will be invaluable particularly at this crucial time as we all recover from the COVID-19 pandemic."

Susanne Millar, Interim Chief Officer, Glasgow City HSCP, added: "Martin is an excellent appointment to this role. His leadership qualities, experience and dedication to improving the Mental Health of the people of Greater Glasgow and Clyde will be a real asset. He joins us at a particular challenging but exciting time, and he is well equipped to lead us through the effects of the pandemic and beyond."

"I look forward to working with him in his capacity as Deputy Medical Director – Mental health and Addiction services."

HR COVID Support Team: SSTS Long COVID Absence Recording

You may be aware that the team have expanded support for managers who have staff currently off with Long COVID and have introduced Long COVID Attendance Meetings, in line with [NHSScotland Workforce Attendance Policy](#).

The main purpose of the meeting is to support the employee with their absence and receive an update on how their recovery is progressing. In addition, it will be discussed whether a management referral to the Occupational Health Service would be beneficial and any workplace adjustments which would support their return to work.

The team have started contacting line managers to arrange meetings for staff who have been off for more than 84 days. To ensure that all employees which meet this criteria are picked up, it is important that **SSTS is kept up to date** and **Long COVID absences extended** to show that the absence is continuing.

Our process can be found on the [COVID-19 General staff guidance & resources page](#). Any questions, support or guidance on anything mentioned above please do not hesitate to contact the team by email: staff.covid19@ggc.scot.nhs.uk.

Social Distancing – Staff Competition

The Social Distancing Communications group have launched another great competition for staff!

This time around we are looking for staff to tell us of the social distancing activity they have implemented in their area, or ideas that could be implemented. We are particularly interested in good ideas and opportunities for improvement that have really benefitted, or could benefit Social Distancing across the wider Board.

For full details on how to enter, visit [StaffNet > Hot Topics](#)

The closing date is 31 March 2021.

Social distancing is everyone's responsibility

Don't encroach on your colleagues' desk area,
maintain social distancing when talking



Do it, encourage it. Don't spread the virus at work or home

Please keep up-to-date with the latest guidance on our dedicated web pages at: www.nhsggc.org.uk/covid19. If you have any questions about the current situation please check the [FAQs](#) first. If you have any further questions, please email: staff.covid19@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

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.
A full archive of printable PDFs are available on [StaffNet](#)