

Tuesday 31 January 2023

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**Dr Gray's Hospital Plan for the Future 2023-2033 – Update** We have a key commitment within the [Plan for the Future](#) to develop a long-term plan for Dr Gray's Hospital with the aim of improving recruitment and retention of staff and to ensure confidence in the local delivery of specialist care. Engagement began in June and ran through to December 2022 with staff, the public and partners being at the heart of the approach. Thank you to everyone who gave their views during the engagement period. Feedback has been carefully analysed and responses have been summarised into three themes - People, Places and Pathways - with 13 draft high level priority areas identified.

The Grampian NHS Board will meet this Thursday (2 February) and will consider a Strategic Intent Proposal for Dr Gray's Plan for the Future. You can read this paper – along with all the board papers – [on the NHS Grampian website](#). The summary engagement report, which forms part of this document, has been attached to the email used to send this brief. The full engagement report will follow shortly.

We want you to let us know how you would like to be kept informed on progress of the plan's development. [Please let us know using this link](#), it should take less than two minutes to complete.

**New vice-chair** Congratulations to Dennis Robertson, one of the non-executive members of the Grampian NHS Board, on his appointment as vice-chair. Dennis said: "I am delighted to have been appointed as Vice Chair of NHS Grampian. I look forward to working with the Chair, Alison Evison and the rest of the Board, and I'm sure their knowledge and experience will assist me in my new role."

**System pressures – what we are doing** A priority area identified as part of the Winter Plan is Aberdeen City Health & Social Care Partnership's Hospital@Home service.

- **What is Hospital @Home?**

Hospital@Home is a short-term, targeted intervention providing a level of acute hospital care in an individual's own home, equivalent to that provided within a hospital. Patients can be referred to Hospital@Home as an alternative to hospital admission or supported as an earlier than anticipated discharge from hospital when a patient is still requiring ongoing medical support. Both pathways help to relieve the pressure on acute in-patient hospital settings, as well as delivering improved outcomes for the patient.

Within Aberdeen City, our Hospital@Home service has been in development since 2018. There are currently 35 beds, 25 of which are frailty, 5 Outpatient Parenteral Antibiotic Therapy (OPAT), and 5 end of life care within Rubislaw Park Nursing Home. We have a multi-disciplinary team consisting of medical staff (Consultants and GPs), Advanced Nurse Practitioners, Nurse Practitioners, Registered Nurses, Senior HealthCare Support Workers, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Pharmacy and Admin as well as trainees in various disciplines. We currently have Advanced Practitioners from the Scottish Ambulance Service working as part of the team too.

- **What's next?**

We will develop new pathways, and new bed capacity, by focusing on acute and respiratory medicine. We have funding for 15 beds to support this identified through pre-existing MDT monies, which is well on the way to being fully recruited to. We also have additional funding which has been secured through a business case to create a further 8-10 respiratory beds with dedicated, specialist respiratory input.

An organisational change in relation to extending the service hours is under way.

We have a test of change underway consisting of H@H team members attending ARI (ward 102, AMIA and ED) to assist with patient flow from those areas into H@H.

We have started work with the Flow Navigation Centre with a view to establishing a pathway for referrals as well as from Care Homes

We also have a local aim of increasing our bed base to 100 beds by 2025. This is outlined in the Aberdeen health and social care partnership's strategic plan

Want to know more? If you have questions, please contact Marie Reid, Service Manager ([marie.reid@nhs.scot](mailto:marie.reid@nhs.scot))

**Acute Dietetic Department relocation** The Acute Dietetic Department has moved location as of today (31 January) and is now based on Level 4, Yellow Zone, ARI. The department telephone numbers will remain unchanged, and we can be contacted on extensions 52145 and 52935.

**Healthcare chaplaincy – temporary service reduction** Due to unexpected staff absences, there is a very limited chaplaincy service this week. If you require a chaplain during normal office hours (8.30am - 4.30pm), please call the main office on extension 53316 and we will respond as soon as we can. If the matter is urgent, please page the on-call chaplain via switchboard. There continues to be a chaplain on call until 6.30pm on weekdays and from 8.30am - 6.30pm at the weekend. We apologise for any inconvenience.

**Tier 4 Inpatient Psychology service** We are delighted to announce this service is now up and running, providing a specialised psychology service for some of the inpatients on the adult acute inpatient wards at RCH covering Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire as well as a small remit to cover supported and residential accommodation in the community. The staff in the service are Dr Gill Kidney and Dr Angela Seaman, Clinical Psychologists, supported by Julia Heeren and Eithne MacDonald, Assistant Psychologists. If you have any questions about the service please do get in touch, we would love to hear from you.

**Quality and Safety in Healthcare Event 2023: “Be Civil, Be Safe”** The 2023 Quality Event will be held virtually on Wednesday 17 May, from 9am to 12.30pm. All colleagues and partner agencies across Grampian with a role in health & care are welcome to attend this event. More information on the programme content and registration to follow, but the call for poster abstracts is now open! [Please click here](#) for more information and to submit your abstract. The closing date for abstract submissions is Friday 24 February 2023. There will be prizes for the top three posters.

**Skills for Health – Health Heroes Awards** Nominations are open for the 2023 Health Heroes Awards, organised by Skills for Health and honouring people in a range of healthcare support roles. There are 11 categories in total, including Apprentice of the Year, Clinical Support Worker of the Year, and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion champion. [Full details are available here](#), nominations close on Monday 20 February

**And finally**, As you may have seen on our social media accounts today, high praise for the team on Ward 7 at Woodend:

## **Wonderful Woodend staff**

Sir, – I have had many occasions in hospital but never before have I experienced care like in Woodend Ward 7 (in Aberdeen).

Every member of staff were fantastic. Lovely atmosphere of comradeship. Proud professionals with kind gentle care. No time wasted. All organised, achieving high standards of kindness delivered pleasantly and promptly.

I always felt I was an individual although one of many. Doctors, nurses, all staff were approachable, available with a smile although battling to get to work in -7 degrees and snow.

Thank you Mr Neilly and your superb staff for my care in Ward 7, Woodend Hospital.

**Marion Gilmour,  
Westhill.**

Poor old January. Everyone celebrates its arrival, then spends the following 30 days wishing it was over! In that spirit, for the final day of the month, Viki Rafferty has requested [January February](#) by Barbara Dickson (EP).

If you want to request a tune, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot)