

Daily Brief...



Friday 11 September 2026

NHS Public Sector reform – further information and next all-staff briefing Last week the Scottish Government published its Programme for Government, setting out priorities for improving health and social care services and ensuring they are sustainable, responsive and effective for future generations. This included their stated intention to move from the current 14 territorial NHS Boards to two strategic territorial Boards, covering the east and west of Scotland, as well as simplifying the special board structure. We have now received an FAQ and an accompanying letter from Christine McLaughlin, interim Chief Executive of NHS Scotland & Director General for Health and Social Care. These can be read by [following this intranet link](#).

We know you will have further questions about these plans. As such the next all-staff briefing, scheduled to take place on Monday 21 September, 2-2.30pm, will be focused solely on NHS reform. Your questions are welcomed and can be sent to gram.communications@nhs.scot. You do not need to book to attend this briefing, [just use this joining link at the above time](#). As usual, it will be recorded and shared for the benefit of those who cannot attend. There will be a further all-staff briefing on 5 October, which will pick up on 'business as usual' matters.

Every Penny Counts – feedback Thank you so much to everyone who took part in either our virtual or in-person idea sessions, or who submitted suggestions via our form, they were all gratefully received! Some of them related to areas where we already have protocols or policies in place, which tells us it's time for a reminder of these. First off, lowering our energy costs. Contrary to what some might think, we are charged as an organisation in the same way as you are at home – by unit price. As such, our bills can rise in the same way yours do. This means the tips we follow at home can also apply at work; lights off at the end of the day, shut down PCs, don't fill the kettle when you're only making a cuppa for yourself; you're bound to have others. Obviously, some of our energy usage is non-negotiable; we need to power to run lifesaving/life maintaining equipment. However, taking simple steps has the power to really reduce our costs and we would encourage everyone to do so.

Theatre greens: for theatres only The theatre department at ARI is currently experiencing significant pressure on supplies of theatre greens. Hospital-supplied theatre greens are intended for theatre staff and approved clinical areas only. Theatre attire should not be worn outside designated clinical areas and should not be taken for non-theatre use. Restricting the use of theatre greens to essential users helps ensure adequate supplies are available for perioperative services and reduces unnecessary pressure on Linen Services.

New glucose meters – training moves to RACH Starting on Monday, training in the new glucose meters will take place in the Lower Ground Floor meeting room in RACH, as follows:

Mon 14 September– 12.30pm/1.30pm/2.30pm

Tues 15 September - 9.30am/10.30am/11.30am/1pm/2pm/3pm

Wed 16 September – 1pm/2pm/3pm

Thurs 17 September- 9.30am/10.30am/11.30am/1pm/2pm/3pm

Fri 18 September – 9.30am/10.30am/11.30am/1pm

A maximum of 15 staff can attend each session. We will try our best to accommodate all who attend but on busy sessions you may be asked to come back later. Please contact the Point of Care Team if you have any questions regarding the new meters and training gram.poct@nhs.scot ext 52831/59272

Inclusion in Action Small changes can make a big difference. Learning Disability Week is an opportunity to reflect on how we can make services more inclusive every day and we hope the material shared this week has been helpful. You can find more resources, good practice examples, and information on inclusion and the rights of people with learning disabilities [by following this link](#) to the Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities website.

Across Grampian, learning disability teams work within our HSCPs and Mental Health & Learning Disability inpatient services. These multidisciplinary teams, including learning disability nurses, allied health professionals, psychologists, and medical staff, provide specialist assessment, advice, and support. If you are supporting a person with a learning disability and need advice or guidance, please contact your local team. Early support can help ensure appropriate care and reasonable adjustments are in place.

Speech and Language Therapy Learning Disability support website This website provides information about how speech and language therapy supports people with learning disabilities, presented in an inclusive and accessible way using Makaton. You can also find information about the training we provide, our role in supporting alternative and augmentative communication (AAC), and a range of helpful resources and signposting. In addition, you'll find referral forms and an opportunity to meet the team. [Please do explore the website by following this link](#) and get in touch if you have any questions.

2026 Celebrating Excellence events Spaces are filling up fast for these events in Elgin, Inverurie, and Aberdeen. All speaker slots for the Aberdeen event have now been filled, and only a handful remain available in Elgin and Inverurie. Poster presentation spaces are still available across all three locations.

If you do not have a presentation or poster to share, we would still encourage you to register and attend (see relevant links below). With support from NHS Grampian Charity, lunch and refreshments will be provided. Join nurses, midwives, AHPs and HCSWs from across NHS Grampian to celebrate achievements, share learning, and hear about the fantastic work taking place across our NMAHP community.

[Moray: Elgin City Football Club - Thursday 24 September](#)

[Shire: Garioch Heritage Centre, Inverurie – Thursday 1 October](#)

[City: Curl Aberdeen – Thursday 26 November](#)

That was the week that was

Monday 7 – interim Executive Nurse Director appointment, Grampian carol concert 2026

Tuesday 8 – Band 5 nursing review – September update, Mandatory clinical safety Turas module for staff requesting microbiology tests

Wednesday 9 – medical equipment procurement reminder, Grampian respiratory MCN educational event

Thursday 10 – Prevention and Management of Violence and Aggression (PMVA) breakaway videos, Exec team weekly report

All briefs are stored online, [just click this link](#) or visit Working with Us>HR Portal>NHSG Staff Daily Briefs on the NHS Grampian website.

STAR Award Congratulations to Lucy McLeod on her recent STAR Award presentation! As a manager, Lucy consistently demonstrates outstanding leadership, compassion and commitment to supporting colleagues. Through calm guidance, active listening, and a strong focus on staff wellbeing, Lucy helps create a positive, inclusive and supportive environment where people feel valued, respected and empowered to thrive. If you know a team, or individual, STAR, making a nomination couldn't be easier. All you need to do is complete the short form [available via this link](#).

Tune of the day Today's request goes out to Nicola Jappy, junior charge nurse, from Wendy and all the quines on Philorth Ward at Fraserburgh Hospital. Nicola, described as 'an all-round great gal' recently had a birthday so for her, here's [Aqua and Dr Jones](#) (full disclosure, the video has not aged well...)

Remember, you don't need to be celebrating birthdays, NHS anniversaries, or retirements to request a tune. I'm always here for a 'just because' moment.

I'm off next week, leaving you in the very safe hands of my corporate comms colleagues. Please be nice to them! Thank you, as always, for showing up. You are seen and valued (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.dailybrief@nhs.scot