

# Daily Brief...



Monday 12 January 2026

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**Reminder – strike action suspended** As shared on Friday afternoon, planned strike action by resident doctor members of BMA Scotland has been suspended, pending consultation on a revised offer from Scottish Government. We want to express our enormous gratitude to everyone who worked so hard on strike contingency preparations. Colleagues showed huge flexibility and willingness to adapt to ensure emergency and critical services could be maintained.

All services should stand down their preparations and plan to run business as usual this week, bearing in mind our recovery from recent weather pressures.

**New Virology Referral Process** A new referral system has been implemented for contacting the duty virology team. All queries or referrals should be emailed to [gram.virologyaberdeen@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.virologyaberdeen@nhs.scot). For urgent referrals or queries please contact switchboard, who will put you in contact with the duty consultant covering virology. The previous methods of referral, page (#3100) and ascom (58185) are no longer operational. These changes are in effect between 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday. At weekends, and after 5pm on weekdays, referrals should be made via switchboard to the on-call microbiologist, as per current arrangements.

**eRostering SharePoint site – now live** This page is designed to support you in understanding and using the Optima eRostering suite effectively. It holds information and guidance on our eRostering products, including Optima, SafeCare, and Loop. Please consider bookmarking the site, [available by following this link](#), so you and your team can quickly access support if needed. New resources and updates will be added as they become available.

**Values Based Reflective Practice – dates for 2026** We are delighted to offer new dates for 2026 for Values Based Reflective Practice (VBRP®) Essential Toolkit training in Aberdeen and Elgin. This is open to all health and social care staff with no pre-requirements.

After completion, participants can use the tools to reflect on their own practice and participate more fully in groups led by a trained VBRP® facilitator. This training is also a pre-requisite if you would like to progress your skills and move onto VBRP® Dynamics and Processes (Facilitator) training.

A flyer with dates, and a factsheet about VBRP®, [are available via this link](#), alternatively, you can contact June, our VBRP® Lead Facilitator, via [june.gordon@nhs.scot](mailto:june.gordon@nhs.scot).

**Upload today and be part of the Furniture Amnesty** Let's reduce waste, save money and make the most of what we already have across the organisation [by using the WARP-IT Reuse Portal](#). Declutter your space and contribute to a more sustainable organisation. For support or enquiries, please contact the Procurement Team ([gram.procurement@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.procurement@nhs.scot)) or the Sustainability Team ([gram.scar@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.scar@nhs.scot)).

**Pause for thought** Clarity often comes after we've taken the first step – not before. What might happen if you took a first step, and what are you waiting for?

**Tune of the day** Any given Friday evening, you will find me watching BBC4 as they replay Top Of The Pops from yesteryears. Last Friday I was reminded of what an absolute corker [Walk Like A Panther](#) by The All Seeing I was, which is as good a reason as any to make it tune of the day (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)