

Daily Brief...



Tuesday 13 January 2026

Dear colleagues,

As the snow thaws, we once again wanted to express our thanks and gratitude for your remarkable commitment throughout the recent period of severe weather.

Across wards, clinics, community teams, estates, and support services, your calm professionalism meant essential services could continue. You ably demonstrated what it means to serve our communities with compassion and dedication. We recognise this was done whilst many of you were also preparing for the impact of industrial action, which has since been suspended.

We are mindful the aftermath of the past week will continue to be felt by local authority and third-sector partners over the coming days but, with conditions steadily improving, are pleased to confirm that both the Local Resilience Partnership and the Transport Hub have now been formally stood down. However, winter pressures remain, so please look after yourselves and continue to raise any ongoing concerns with your line manager so that appropriate support can be put in place.

With thanks and appreciation,

Laura Skaife-Knight, Chief Executive

Dr June Brown, Executive Nurse Director and Deputy Chief Executive

Handover notes Printed handover notes should **never** be taken off-site and **must** be disposed of in red confidential waste bags at the end of each shift. You are responsible for your own copy of handover notes, their security whilst you have them, and for their proper disposal. There is a real potential for harm to our patients if handover notes are misplaced and recovered by third parties.

Staff feedback at the heart of Pathway to Excellence success The mental health and learning disability (MHLD) team continue their journey to becoming the first [Pathway to Excellence](#) accredited service in Scotland, and they will be looking for feedback from registered nurses across the service this spring.

Joining the Pathway to Excellence programme means the team is committed to creating a positive practice environment to empower and engage staff. MHLD service nurse director Jenny Gibb has recorded a message for staff in the run up to the survey, [which you can watch via this link](#). It's expected the survey will run from early March for three weeks and more details will be shared in due course. If you would like to find out more about the Pathway to Excellence programme and how to contribute towards this should email gram.ideasforimprovement@nhs.scot or julia.mutch@nhs.scot or joanne.grant2@nhs.scot

Linen Services contingency notice Linen Services is currently operating under contingency status due to severe machinery issues. This is affecting our ability to fulfil clean linen orders. All requests will be addressed; however, please note linen is prioritised strictly **for patient use at this time**. Our team is working closely with Estates colleagues to resolve the issue and restore full service as soon as possible. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Enhancing accessibility (physical, auditory and visual) for patients, learners and staff within NHS Grampian You are invited to take part in a research study exploring feelings, attitudes and experiences of accessibility within NHS Grampian, recognising the growing number of students and staff with physical, auditory and visual accessibility needs under the Equality Act 2010. Using existing information, the project will develop a user-friendly accessibility dashboard for patients, staff, and students, which will then be piloted. The aim is to enhance institutional understanding, improve user experiences and help reduce accessibility barriers across NHS Grampian.

This study is jointly funded by ourselves, the NHS Grampian Charity, and the University of Aberdeen. More information on taking part [is available on the intranet by following this link](#).

Book Blether's Seasonal Reads: With the End in Mind There's still time to join in the Winter seasonal read. Don't miss the live MS Teams event at 1pm on Thursday 29 January, with palliative care consultant Tim Morgan and the chaplaincy team. Contact cornhill.library@nhs.scot to get the meeting link. You can also join the conversation on the Seasonal Reads Teams channel. And no reading required, with podcast, website and TEDtalk options available. [Follow this link for more](#) on the seasonal reads.

NHS Grampian Charity Did you know NHS Grampian Charity legally cannot provide funding to support projects or activities which are core, statutory or retrospective? The charity exists to improve the health and wellbeing of the people of Grampian by enhancing the services of the health board – not by replacing core responsibilities – and we cannot support activities where a financial commitment has already been made. If you are applying to the charity for a project or activity, please make sure you do not make any financial commitments until you have received your charity approval (GCA) number, as we are unable to pay any invoices dated before this number is issued. Is there an enhancement you would like to make to your area? [Use this intranet link](#) to find out how you can apply for funding

Inspiring Quality Newsletter The latest edition of the Quality Assurance and Improvement team newsletter is now available to view [by following this link](#).

Tune of the day Do you need a mellow moment today? I know I do! [May You Never](#) by John Martyn fits the bill nicely (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