

Friday 13 March 2026

Reminder - all-staff call with CET The next all-staff call will take place on Monday (16 March) between 12-12.30pm. This is your opportunity to hear the very latest on what's happening across the organisation. You can submit questions in advance (anonymously, if preferred) by emailing gram.communications@nhs.scot These sessions are recorded and a link shared in this brief for those unable to attend. [No need to book, simply use this joining link.](#)

Turas Appraisal - planned downtime Turas Appraisal will be offline from 4pm on Tuesday 17 March to move to workforce data updates coming from eESS instead of SWISS. It will be offline for a few hours but should be fully available on Wednesday 18 March. For advice or support with Turas Appraisal, please contact gram.wcd@nhs.scot

Fostering positivity through Pathway to Excellence A reminder for registered nurses across Mental Health and Learning Disability Services to please take part in the Pathway to Excellence survey. Follow [this link to our latest intranet update](#), which includes a link to the survey and all the details you'll need.

Digital Bytes - Your Quick IT Fix The Digital Support Centre Training Team produce Digital Bytes – a growing series of bite-sized, 60-second videos designed to make your digital life easier. Each video delivers practical tips and tricks you'll wish you'd known sooner. We advertise new videos via this brief, while the full collection is [available to view by following this intranet link](#). Our latest Digital Byte focuses on Imprivata Manage Passwords; previous videos cover HEPMA Fallback Terminal, Imprivata Tap & Go Care Reader, Outlook: Immersive Reader, Word: Dictation, Windows: Voice Access and Windows: Magnifier.

Got ideas? [We welcome your feedback and topic suggestions via this form](#). You can learn more about the Digital Support Centre and access the full range of training resources at [GRAM – Digital Support Centre](#) – Helping support your digital journey.

Foundations of Community Engagement workshops and Community Empowerment Toolkit An online toolkit to support community organising and engagement has been launched by Community Planning Aberdeen. [Available via this link, the Community Empowerment Toolkit](#) provides tips and information for anyone looking to make changes in their community. It is also for anyone looking to undertake community engagement as part of their role.

As well as the toolkit, a new introductory training course 'Foundations of Community Engagement' is being offered to community engagement practitioners across Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, and Moray. This course is for anyone who wants to learn the basics of community engagement and apply these skills as part of their job role. There are dates in April, May, and June; [to book please follow this link](#).

Primary Care Efficiency Feedback – SGLT2 Medicine Switch: Celebrating Success In December 2025, the Primary Care Prescribing Group highlighted an opportunity for a technical medicines switch from empagliflozin or canagliflozin to dapagliflozin. This change offered substantial cost efficiencies while maintaining high-quality clinical care for patients.

GP practices were invited to participate and an excellent 43% of practices opted in. These practices successfully switched 95% of all eligible patients to the more cost-effective medicine option. Their efforts are expected to contribute £895,000 in annual net savings towards our efficiency targets, with most benefits realised in 2026/27.

The Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate – Medicines Management Prescribing Efficiency Team are carrying out the switches on behalf of those practices which didn't opt in. This work is almost complete and anticipated to deliver an additional £531,000 in savings in 2026/27.

This collaborative, mixed-model approach has proven to be a highly effective method for generating efficiencies. Thank you to all GP practices for their direct or indirect contributions to this important achievement.

That was the week that was

Monday 9 – guidance on financial year end processes, TrakCare log-in improvements

Tuesday 10 – ARI pharmacy stock take – this weekend, removal of desk bins

Wednesday 11 – ePayroll – removal of information for 2015/16, AHP welcome event

Thursday 12 – Protected Learning Time update, migraine training for pharmacy teams

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 Let us tip our hats to Tracy Elliot, deputy service manager for MUSC at Dr Gray's, on her recent STAR Award presentation. Tracy's calm approach, organisation and willingness to support the whole team make a real difference every day. Do 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 Ahead of Mothering Sunday, a shout-out to all our wonderful work mums; those stalwart guides who help us through the tricky times. [Call Me Mother](#) by RuPaul should do the job (does include a few swears, for info).

Mother's Day isn't a day of celebration for all. If you're approaching it with a degree of trepidation, be gentle with yourself. Take care of yourselves, and each other. Thank you (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