

# Daily Brief...



Thursday 14 August 2025

## Ask Adam Staff Q&A – August 2025

In this [latest episode of "Ask Adam,"](#) Interim Chief Executive Adam Coldwells answers your questions on the things that matter to you. As you may expect, our financial challenges and the issues they present right across the system run through a lot of the questions this month, with Adam also providing updates on SG Level 4 Performance and the external diagnostic review. We know you're busy, so we've pulled out the key moments with timestamps to help you skip straight to the topics you care about most.



Key topics covered in this episode:

[00:36](#) Welcome to Laura Skaife Knight & [Stage 4 Updates](#)

[03:28](#) Who is paying for the KPMG external review?

[04:58](#) Why is it no longer possible to provide refreshments for day case patients?

[06:32](#) What's being done to combat an NHS premium being applied to our procurement?

[09:40](#) Impact of the UK Supreme Court decision on gender identify on patients and staff.

[11:53](#) Why are domestics no longer able to join the bank as part of a transition to a HCSW role?

[13:38](#) Given our financial pressures, should we still be offering new recruits relocation expenses?

Got a question for Adam or some feedback? Drop us a line at [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot) – and let us know if you'd like to stay anonymous. Watch the full episode here: <https://youtu.be/zX4LXWKq7R4>

**Help shape Aberdeen's Alcohol-Free Pregnancy campaign** Join a community workshop next week to help shape a local campaign that supports alcohol-free pregnancy in Aberdeen. Over the past few months, health improvement colleagues have had conversations with local people using evidence-based 'Drymester' materials. They've heard powerful insights about what makes health messages feel respectful and real – especially in communities most affected by inequality. Workshop details:

Torry	Middlefield	Tillydrone
Date: Tues 19 August Time: 9.30 – 11.30am Location: Greyhope Community Hub, Tullos Circle. Room M7 Refreshments provided	Date: Tues 19 August Time: 1 -3pm Location: Middlefield Community Project, Manor Avenue Refreshments provided	Date: Fri 22 August Time: 10am – 12 noon Location: Donbank Room, Tillydrone Community Campus, Hayton Road Refreshments provided

The workshops will explore the use of posters, social media content, peer-led conversations, and the best ways to reach people in your community. No experience is required. Please RSVP indicating which workshop you would like to attend by 15 August to [healthimprovement@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:healthimprovement@aberdeencity.gov.uk)

**Ditch the desk bins** A managed approach to the removal of all desk bins across all NHS Grampian sites was agreed last year, marking a significant step forward in reducing waste disposal costs and increasing recycling rates. Disposing of general waste costs NHS Grampian up to four times more than recycling, and has a significant detrimental impact on our planet. The removal of desk bins also prevents domestic staff from having to bend down under hundreds of desks daily, which has led to musculoskeletal injuries.

This switch continues as part of our commitment to address the climate emergency and promote sustainability. Please make a conscious effort to use central recycling points per office or floor (suited to your area) as these are made available to you, and help contribute significantly to our environmental targets. For further information, email [gram.scar@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.scar@nhs.scot)

**Temporary hot water disruption at Ashgrove House** Starting at 1pm on Monday, 18 August, the steam line to Ashgrove House will be isolated to allow for essential maintenance scheduled for the next day. There will be no hot water in the building until repairs are completed. Maintenance is expected to begin around 8am and will last approximately 3–4 hours. Hot water may take longer to be fully restored after the works are completed. Cold water will remain available for toilet flushing, hand washing, and other basic needs.

**Seasonal Reads** Love books but short on time? Seasonal Reads is a relaxed, no-pressure book group that lives on MS Teams – perfect for busy health & social care colleagues across NHS Grampian. Whether you're a regular reader or just dipping in now and then, you're very welcome. We pick one book each season, giving everyone plenty of time to read and join the conversation when it suits them. Find out more via this link: [📖 ✨ Seasonal Reads: Shared Reading, Your Way!](#) Interested? Email [cornhill.library@nhs.scot](mailto:cornhill.library@nhs.scot) to get involved.

**Tune of the day** Today we have a shout for Karen Stewart's colleagues in Morven Ward at Glen O' Dee Hospital. [The heat is on](#) by Glenn Frey is for you guys and everyone else working hard through this warm weather. It's a scorcher! (KJ)

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)