

Thursday 15 January 2026

Agenda for Change non-pay reforms Following a meeting of the programme board monitoring these reforms (reduction in the working week, the Band 5 nursing review, and a consistent approach to protected learning time) we can provide the following updates:

- **Band 5 nursing review** - we want to stress again this opportunity is open to ALL Band 5 nurses. We would particularly encourage those with specialist training to consider submitting an application, but it is open to any registered nurse employed on a Band 5 contract. We also want to confirm decisions on review applications are taken solely because of the evidence provided. There is no financial consideration as part of this process.
- **Reduced Working Week** - following the update from CET in yesterday's brief, we want to confirm all roster submissions will receive an email response. This response will include whether their submission, and backfill request if made, has been approved, and that clear information on the next steps for teams to follow based on the outcome of their submission will be provided. Notification emails will be sent in batches with the first batch of submission outcome emails being issued from later this week/early next week. Teams should not be concerned if they do not receive a submission notification in the first batch; further batches will follow. Please read this email carefully.

Patient Placement Tool (PPT) - reminder and survey deadline extended The infection prevention and control team continues to see low compliance with the Patient Placement Tool (PPT) completion during routine audits and reviews. Accurate and timely completion of the PPT is essential to ensure appropriate patient placement and to reduce the risk of cross-infection.

If you are responsible for in-patient admissions, you should complete and review the PPT as part of ongoing infection risk assessment at key points in the patient journey and whenever infection risk is identified or changes.

The deadline for the PPT staff survey has been extended to 31 January; [follow this link to take part](#). Your feedback will help us identify any barriers and challenges to support the ongoing quality improvement. For further question or support regarding PPT, please email: gram.infectioncontrol@nhs.scot

Putting you in the FRAME - help us shape future education and career development frameworks Nurses, midwives, and AHPs are invited to take part in the Framework Review, Alignment, Monitoring and Evaluation (FRAME) project, which aims to better understand how education and career development frameworks are developed, implemented and used. The goal is to ensure NES frameworks deliver the greatest value to all who use them.

You can take part in the survey, which takes around 10 minutes, [by following this link](#). It is open until Wednesday 21 January. Stuart Tuckwood, NMAHP lead at NES, will be at the ARI Rotunda next Tuesday, between 10am and 3pm to answer any questions you may have about the FRAME project.

Aberdeen Dental Outreach Centre – treatment offer The Aberdeen Dental Outreach Centre is currently inviting unregistered patients for treatment within student teaching clinics. Student treatment, provided within NHS Grampian dental clinics is free of charge, and is supervised by fully qualified and experienced dentists. If you are over 18 years of age, are not currently registered with a dentist, and are able to attend appointments during working hours, further information can be obtained by calling Argyll Dental Practice on 01224 551581 ext. 51581. Alternatively, you can email gram.outreachdental@nhs.scot. An assessment is carried out prior to a patient being accepted to the student clinic to ensure student teaching requirements are matched to patient treatment needs.

Allied Health Professions journal club Join your fellow AHPs on the last Tuesday of each month to read and discuss relevant papers, build confidence in critical appraisal, share insights, and build a supportive research active community. All are welcome, whether you're new to research or an evidence enthusiast. Meetings take place on Teams, between 4-4.45pm. For more information, please contact gram.ahpresearch@nhs.scot

ICYMI - Women's Health Community Appointment Day We are pleased to be hosting our first Women's Health Community Appointment Day (CAD) – a free drop-in event designed to support women across Grampian. This event will take place next Tuesday (20 January) between 9.30am and 4pm at the Aberdeen Vaccination & Wellbeing Hub (Bon Accord). For more details, [follow this link to our website](#).

New staff discounts Some new offers have been posted in the Food & Drink and Housing & Gardens sections of the Staff Discounts pages on the intranet. [You can find staff discounts by following this link](#) to Your Space.

Tune of the day Jillian Donohoe, a speech and language therapist based at Kincardine Community Hospital, makes today's request. Her dear colleague and friend, Christine, finishes up on maternity leave tomorrow and Jillian has requested [The Great Unknown](#) by Jukebox The Ghost to send her on her way. I've also been asked to note Jillian is an excellent name for a baby (so's Emma, while we're at it) (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