

Daily Brief...



Tuesday 19 August 2025

Windows 11 Upgrade Rollout – Latest Update The optional Windows 11 upgrade pop-up is now live and has been successfully deployed to around 5,000 hybrid worker laptops. This is a key milestone in our upgrade programme, helping us move closer to full compliance and improved security across our digital estate. Thanks to those who have already done so, but please remember this needs to be done, so please take the time to run the upgrade, if offered, ASAP.

A huge thank you to the 1,000+ colleagues who have already taken the time to complete the upgrade form. Your input is invaluable in helping us target updates effectively. If you haven't yet filled in the form, please do so as soon as possible – the more information we have, the smoother the rollout will be for everyone. The form is available here: [Windows 11 Laptop Upgrade Form](#)

For those working on-site, a similar upgrade option will be available for desktop users at our main sites within the next couple of weeks. Further details and guidance will follow shortly. For FAQs and step-by-step instructions on the upgrade process, [please refer to this guidance](#) (intranet link, networked devices only).

Unlocking Potential: The Power of Mid-Year Reviews Mid-year Performance Appraisal Reviews are a vital opportunity to reflect, realign, and refocus. Taking place halfway through the appraisal year, these discussions offer valuable time for staff and managers/reviewers to:

- assess progress
- ensure objectives remain relevant and achievable
- celebrate successes
- strengthen two-way communication.

The 6 August 2025 implementation of the [NHS Scotland Personal Development Planning and Performance Review Policy](#) now applies to all employees including bank and sessional workers. To help you prepare and get the most from your appraisal conversations, the following resources are available on Turas (log-in required):

- [Appraisal | Turas | Learn](#)
- [Getting the Best from Your Appraisal | Turas | Learn](#)
- [Performance Appraisal for Managers and Reviewers | Turas | Learn](#)
- [Turas Appraisal 1-Hour Bitesize Refresher | Turas | Learn](#)

For further support contact the Wellbeing, Culture and Development Department at gram.wcd@nhs.scot

Datix surgeries The next Datix surgeries will take place on Tuesday 26 August, 2-2.30pm and 2.30-3pm. Book on to ask a question or seek advice on anything to do with Datix. Booking is via Turas (requires log-in): [Datix Surgeries | Turas | Learn \(nhs.scot\)](#)

Emergency Alerts system test The UK government is testing the Emergency Alerts system on Sunday 7 September at 3pm. Compatible mobile phones and tablets will receive an alert, make a loud siren-like sound, and vibrate. You will not need to take any action. There is more information on this on this website: [About Emergency Alerts - GOV.UK](#) This page includes advice on how to opt out of emergency alerts. Opting out is not recommended but may be helpful for those in unsafe home situations, or who have a cognitive condition (e.g., dementia) and may find the alert distressing.

Chronic Pain Study Day for nurses, AHPs and psychologists: Chronic pain affects 38% of the Scottish population. The chronic pain management service is running a free face-to-face study day on Tuesday 18 November where you can learn more about what chronic pain is and how to manage it more effectively. Contact naomi.scott2@nhs.scot to register.

NHS Grampian Charity The charity has today announced £3.1M in funding for three different projects. More than £1.5M has been awarded to develop and deliver a pathway of care for people living with functional disorder symptoms. Around £1.1M has been awarded to implement the Putting People First approach to place patients and communities at the centre of decision making. Finally, almost £500,000 has been awarded to develop an innovative whole-system pathway to provide early identification, assessment, and tailored support for children with neuro-developmental differences in Grampian. These projects are exciting tests of change, with each expected to begin in the coming months, and being funded by the charity for two years. More information is available here: [NHS Grampian Charity awards £3.1 million to healthcare projects](#)

Tune of the day City schools return today; Moray and 'Shire, it will be your turn tomorrow. To mark the new term, here's The Korgis and [Everybody's Got To Learn Sometime](#) (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