

Daily Brief...



Tuesday 2 December 2025

Protected Learning Time (PLT) - a consistent approach As part of the 2023/24 Agenda for Change (AfC) agreement, a consistent national approach to PLT is being introduced. Here's what you need to know:

- [This updated Scottish Government PLT circular – follow link to read](#) - outlines 9 core mandatory Once for Scotland (OfS) eLearning modules. These are expected to go live on Monday 2 March 2026.
- All staff must complete the following statutory and mandatory eLearning modules (each approximately 30 minutes) by 2 September 2026 or by your current mandatory learning renewal date - whichever date comes first.

Statutory and Mandatory Modules for ALL staff	Date to Complete
Once for Scotland - Fraud awareness (NEW for NHS Grampian staff)	By 2 September 2026
Once for Scotland - Fire safety	By your current renewal date
Once for Scotland - Cyber security	By your current renewal date
Once for Scotland - Safe information handling	By your current renewal date
Once for Scotland - Manual handling	By your current renewal date
Once for Scotland - Understanding equality, diversity and human rights	By your current renewal date for 'Equality and diversity KSF Level 2'
Once for Scotland - Why infection prevention control matters	By your current renewal date
Once for Scotland - Prevention and management of violence and aggression	By your current renewal date
Once for Scotland - Child protection and adult support and protection	By your current renewal date

Except for 'Fraud Awareness', these modules are already part of our statutory and mandatory training. You should continue to complete them as and when your current certificate expires. You can check expiration dates on your Turas profile. Please continue with your current statutory, mandatory, and profession specific training – do not wait for the new modules. Future updates will follow the national monthly communication plan and will include links for managers seeking additional support on implementing PLT.

Annual Review 2025 Our annual review took place yesterday, led by Neil Gray, the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care. There were meetings with Partnership representatives, the Area Clinical Forum, patient and carer representatives, and finally a public session at Curl Aberdeen. The public session was recorded, and we will share that via this brief later in the week. Thank you to everyone who participated in the Annual Review this year.

Partnership efforts continue to support CDU A herculean effort continues to ensure surgical work can take place while our central decontamination unit at Foresterhill remains closed. Decontamination specialist staff are continuing to operate the decontamination unit at Woodend Hospital in Aberdeen 24/7, and the team is continuing to work alongside a number of other Scottish health boards to process as many trays of instruments as they possibly can. The team's manual washing process – put in place to support the decontamination effort before equipment is processed elsewhere – successfully moved to a temporary location in the University of Aberdeen's Life Sciences building last week.

Acute medical director, Paul Bachoo commented: "This has not been an easy time for anyone and the work ongoing to address this situation and keep the giant wheels of NHS Grampian turning is commendable. We can't thank everyone enough." [You can read the latest update in full via this link.](#)

Talking Mats training – dates for 2026 Talking Mats is a visual framework which uses picture symbols to help people with communication difficulties. It has the potential for use with a wide range of people and is an approach which helps them think about issues and provides them with a way of expressing their views more easily. The Learning Disability Service have in-house trainers, and training is available on 15 January 2026 and 19 February 2026. These are half day sessions, and you must attend both sessions. [Follow this link to further information on the intranet.](#)

Nursing Now Challenge – welcome webinar The Burdett Trust for Nursing are running a webinar at 8.30am on Friday (5 December). It will highlight the impact of global nursing and midwifery and explore the opportunities available to members of the Nursing Now Challenge community, more than 250,000 student and early-career nurses and midwives worldwide. [Registration is via this link.](#)

Reproductive Health and Childbirth newsletter The latest instalment of the NHS Research Scotland Reproductive Health and Childbirth newsletter – the final one for 2025 - [can be read via this link.](#)

NHS Grampian Charity Did you know today is Giving Tuesday, a global day of generosity and giving? You may have patients or visitors who want to donate to your ward or department today in recognition of Giving Tuesday. If you are visited by a donor today, or any other day throughout the year, you can visit the NHS Grampian Charity intranet site to find out how to accept a donation and download the relevant paperwork: [Pages - Accepting a Donation](#) If you need any help with donations or would like more information, please get in touch with gram.charities@nhs.scot

Tune of the day It's Tuesday. If you dream of making a lot of money and quittin' this crazy scene, then [Joni Mitchell's River](#) is for you. I am now fully open for Christmas song requests, so have 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