

Daily Brief...



Tuesday 2 June 2026

iMatter – why does it matter? Message from Bert Donald *“In my role as a non-executive member of the NHS Grampian Board, every day I hear about examples of incredible work across our organisation. This comes from hard graft, dedication and of course, great teamwork. That doesn't happen by accident, and it needs constant checking: 'what can we do better?' 'what do we need to look at?' and 'how can we make the workplace a better place to be?’*

“We can only find those answers by asking you, our staff, who keep the engine running every day of every year. This is why iMatter is so important. It's your chance to let us know how things are for you. As a former senior member of a large public organisation in the north-east, I know what it's like to be part of a huge workforce. I also know the "nothing ever happens, so I won't bother..." phrase all too well. Change doesn't happen overnight - It takes time, listening, participation and understanding.

“Taking ten minutes out to fill in your iMatter survey ensures you are part of the bigger picture in making change happen, keeping your board accountable and being heard as an individual. The survey closes next Monday. Survey links have been sent directly to each of you, so please take the time to have your say. Thank-you.”

As of yesterday evening our completion rate was 50%. Questions? Contact gram.imatter@nhs.scot

Working within the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes This code is a global framework designed to protect breastfeeding and infant feeding ensuring families receive impartial, evidence-based information free from commercial influence. Under the code we have a responsibility to avoid commercial influence and ensure parents receive unbiased information.

- Do not accept gifts, sponsorship, or hospitality from formula companies
- Do not attend company-funded training or events, even if described as educational
- Do not use or display branded materials in care settings

Before engaging with any external training, ensure it is independent, evidence-based, and free from commercial bias. If in doubt, please contact Emma Williams (advanced public health practitioner) for advice via emma.williams2@nhs.scot. You can access evidence-based information about infant feeding, free from commercial bias, [via this link to the First Steps Nutrition website](#).

Volunteers' Week This week sees the annual celebration of volunteers and volunteering across the country. We are so grateful for the many volunteers working across NHS Grampian; to read more on this from Alison Evison and Laura Skaife-Knight, [simply follow this link](#).

Values Based Reflective Practice – time to pause, reflect and connect Want to explore VBRP® for yourself or your team? There are a range of opportunities for you to do so:

- **Open monthly online sessions** first Thursday of the month, 10–11am, the next session is this Thursday (4 June). [Book your slot for this session, or future sessions, by following this link.](#)
- **In-person quarterly sessions** the next one is on Monday 24 August 1-2pm, at ARI (contact gram.vbrp@nhs.scot for more information)
- **Managers' VBRP®** via Management Development Forum (no booking needed)
- **Build your skills**
 - Essential Toolkit – 1 day training, taking place in Aberdeen, [booking via this Turas link.](#)
 - Facilitator Training – a 2-day course, [more information available via this Turas link.](#)

Or, if you want an initial chat about all things VBRP®, get in touch with our lead, June Gordon, via june.gordon@nhs.scot

Invitation to join RGU seminars The Schools of Pharmacy, Applied Sciences and Public Health, and Health at Robert Gordon University (RGU) hold weekly seminars every Wednesday, on Teams, between 12-1pm. There is a standing invitation for NHS staff to join these; [follow this link for details](#) of upcoming seminars and joining links.

There are a range of speakers covering a variety of topics and the sessions are engaging and informative. This collaboration with RGU and NoSCAR provides a great opportunity for NHSG NMAHPs to access a wide range of speakers discussing different areas of research practice.

Scotland's Health Awards Nominations are now open for Scotland's Health Awards 2026. This event celebrates the very best individuals and teams working in the NHS in Scotland. There are 17 categories available and nominations will close on Sunday 23 August. The awards will be handed out at an event in Edinburgh on 12 November. [Nominations can be made by following this link](#); please note you will need to create an account to nominate.

NHS Grampian Charity Did you know the NHS Grampian Charity regularly visits teams and departments to speak to staff about our work, and about how charitable funding can support projects and activities which benefit patients? We're always keen to connect with staff across Grampian and to answer any questions you may have about what the charity does or how to apply for funds. If you'd like us to come along to one of your team or departmental meetings, please email us at gram.charities@nhs.scot to arrange a chat.

Tune of the day Shona McLeman, a healthcare support worker in the sexual health team, makes today's request, asking for [Pink Pony Club](#) by Chappell Roan to mark June being Pride month.

Yesterday was World Orthoptic Day; a shout out to the great orthoptists working across Grampian, sorry we didn't manage a mention for you on the day. Tina Macdonald from health records at DGH is making up for it by requesting [Angeleyes](#) by ABBA (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