

Friday 2 October 2026

Reminder - all-staff briefing Our next all-staff briefing session will take place on Monday (5 October), between 4-4.30pm. You can submit questions in advance (anonymously, if preferred) by emailing gram.communications@nhs.scot These sessions are recorded and a link shared in this brief for those unable to attend. [No need to book, simply use this joining link.](#)

CDU request – red transport boxes All areas receiving decontamination equipment must ensure the red transport boxes are emptied and made available for collection by our transport staff. The CDU team are experiencing difficulties in returning reprocessed equipment to areas for patient procedures as these are not being returned to the department. These boxes should not be used as alternative storage. Thank you for your assistance.

Statutory and Mandatory Training: supporting safe and effective care Statutory and mandatory training plays an important role in helping us deliver safe, effective and person-centred care for our patients, while supporting our own professional responsibilities.

- **Managers:** Please use Turas Learn to review team compliance via Turas Learn reporting. Identify any outstanding learning and support your team to complete required training as soon as possible. Managers can refer [to Q11 of the PLT FAQ available via this link](#) for guidance on accessing team compliance reports.
- **Everyone:** [Log in to Turas Learn and check your learning record via this link.](#) If you have any outstanding modules, please plan time to complete them during working hours, in discussion with your manager. If support is required, please speak with your manager or contact gram.wcd@nhs.scot.

Completed courses help contribute to a safer environment for patients and colleagues, built on learning.

Westholme demolition – wide load equipment leaving Woodend site Further to the completion of Westholme demolition the wide-load equipment will be leaving the site today (Friday) at 6pm. It is expected this will take approximately 45 minutes. Arrangements are in place to ensure this happens safely, with some closures of car parks and roads. [Further information is available via this link.](#)

New staff engagement form The eESS Team are pleased to introduce the new Electronic Staff Engagement Form and guidance, which is now available for use immediately and should replace any existing forms. [Further information is available via this intranet link.](#)

Climate change and our food costs Climate change is already affecting the food supply chain. Prolonged drought and extreme temperatures have reduced UK crop yields, contributing to higher prices for potatoes, vegetables and other essential products.

Confirmed increases from October 2026 include potatoes rising by up to 86.92%, lettuce by 73.9%, cucumbers by 36.3% and carrots by 34.7%. Overall, food costs could be around 8% to 15% higher than current budget assumptions over the next two financial quarters. This demonstrates how climate change can create direct operational and financial pressures for NHS services, including the meals we provide to patients.

[Complete the eLearning, available via this link, to learn more about sustainability in healthcare.](#)

North of Scotland Trauma Network learning event This will take place on Wednesday 4 November at the Macdonald Drumossie Hotel, Inverness. The full day event will feature a range of plenary speakers and interactive workshops, providing opportunities to learn, share best practice, and network with colleagues from across the region. Further information on the aims of the event, together with registration details, [is available via this link](#).

Laboratory newsletters The latest newsletters from the laboratory team are available to read via the links below (networked devices only):

[The Primary Care newsletter is available via this link.](#)

[The Secondary Care newsletter is available via this link.](#)

Challenge Poverty week This annual event begins on Monday. Co-ordinated by the Poverty Alliance, it calls for compassion and justice to help end poverty. It is also a week of opportunities for individuals and partners to unite and call for a just and equal Scotland. [Follow this link to find out](#) what is happening locally.

That was the week that was

Monday 28 – public holiday, no brief issued

Tuesday 29 – pulse survey launched/Speak Up Week, making every mealtime matter training

Wednesday 30 – referrals to spiritual care, climate change and our workplaces

Thursday 1 – reminder re: use of interpretation services, move to Microsoft Authenticator

All briefs are stored online, [just click this link](#) or visit Working with Us>HR Portal>NHSG Staff Daily Briefs on the NHS Grampian website.

STAR Award This week we tip our hat to Teresa Waugh, primary care development manager, on her recent STAR award presentation. Teresa's experience, expertise, and compassionate approach have been invaluable during a challenging period of organisational change. Through clear communication, professionalism, and unwavering support for colleagues, Teresa has helped keep people informed, reassured, and engaged while delivering exceptional results. Bravo! If you know a team, or individual, STAR, making a nomination couldn't be easier. All you need to do is complete the short form [available via this link](#).

Ticket offer – Mel C/Ultimate Masterclass We are a member of the Aberdeen & Grampian Chamber of Commerce; as a thank-you from them for the vital work of the NHS, they are offering the opportunity to apply for free tickets for their latest Ultimate Masterclass series event - An evening with Melanie C - on Thursday 15 October at the Music Hall in Aberdeen

Thirty years after the Spice Girls changed pop music forever, Mel is coming to Aberdeen to celebrate one of the most iconic eras in British music. She will reflect on the extraordinary rise of the Spice Girls, the lessons learned from life at the very top of global entertainment, and the mindset required to sustain success over three decades. It promises to be an unforgettable evening reflecting on one of the biggest musical movements in pop history, with one of the women who helped define a generation. To claim your tickets (maximum 6 per person and it's first come, first served) [simply follow this link](#).

Tune of the day Kinord corridor (old age psychiatry community team) at Royal Cornhill wrapped up their 'STEPtember' challenge on Wednesday. Six teams of five, compiled of all members of the MDT, worked hard to get their steps in during September and collectively they walked over 11 million steps, or to Cairo and back. Team "Walking 9-5" won the overall competition; Catherine Ritchie has asked for The Bangles and [Walk Like An Egyptian](#), dedicated to all the steppers, saying the challenge did wonders for team morale as well as their activity levels!

Is it just me, or does this week feel like it's been 17 days long? And that's with the public holiday on Monday! In any case, another weekend hovers on the horizon. Whatever your plans, have a good one, and, as always, thank you (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.dailybrief@nhs.scot