

# Daily Brief...



Wednesday 20 May 2026

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**Use of NHS vehicles – reminder to all staff** If you use any NHS vehicle, including fleet and pool cars, please remember they must **only** be used for NHS business purposes, in line with our insurance policy. These vehicles must **not** be used for commuting unless there is a clear and legitimate business reason. Any such use must be agreed in advance by the relevant service manager for the area operating the vehicle, and Rob Holt, our fleet & supply chain manager, who will confirm the insurance position.

Use of an NHS vehicle for any non-NHS business may invalidate the insurance. In the event of an accident or theft, you could be held personally liable for all costs and face criminal and civil charges for driving without insurance. All services operating pool vehicles must maintain accurate vehicle logs for audit purposes. These must include:

- Journey Location to/from
- Mileage
- Date and Times of use
- Name of the user

Logs must be reviewed regularly by the department. Questions? Contact Rob Holt via [robert.holt1@nhs.scot](mailto:robert.holt1@nhs.scot)

**Essential works - ARI busport** To allow for essential works, the ARI busport will be closed between midnight on Thursday (21 May) and 4am Friday (22 May). These works are being carried out overnight to ensure minimal impact on access into the hospital and on bus services. We apologise for any inconvenience.

**Update from Executive Team** See below for a summary of this week's meeting of the Executive Team (ET).

<b>Matters for escalation</b>	<b>Major Actions Commissioned/ Work Underway</b>
<p>Workforce capacity pressures within Occupational Health, including leadership gaps and vacancies, may affect service delivery and continue to require short-term mitigation alongside longer-term solutions.</p> <p>National funding and planning assumptions for planned care remain subject to confirmation, creating financial uncertainty where activity is progressed ahead of confirmed allocations.</p>	<p>Development of a refreshed Unscheduled Care Delivery Board is progressing, with an emphasis on clearer accountability, well-defined roles and responsibilities, and prioritisation of a smaller number of high-impact work streams. Work is underway to focus on the culture and behavioural change work needed to inform our improvements re: Unscheduled Care.</p> <p>Work is underway to align improvement priorities, trajectories and funding for planned care, including preparation of bids and scenario modelling to support timely responses to national funding opportunities and reduce long waits.</p> <p>Work is underway which we will take into the Scottish Government-Chaired Assurance Board to finalise the de-escalation criteria with Unscheduled Care and planned care performance improvement metrics to be agreed in the weeks to come.</p>
<b>Positive Assurances to Provide</b>	<b>Decisions Made</b>
<p>Early confirmation of some additional planned care funding and activity support provides a helpful foundation for strengthening performance trajectories.</p> <p>Final Terms of Reference for Executive Team shared</p> <p>6-monthly Innovation assurance report welcomed by the Executive Team.</p> <p>Quality Impact Assessment report related to Value and Sustainability Programme will go onward to Clinical Governance Committee and will be shared with Area Clinical Forum and the Grampian Area Partnership Forum.</p>	<p>Agreement to proceed with planned care activity in Quarter 2 while acknowledging the associated financial risks ahead of Scottish Government funding being agreed and the importance of sustaining performance and recovery for the benefit of our patients.</p>

**New Chief Social Work Officer appointed – Moray** Stephen Morgan has been appointed as the new Chief Social Work Officer and Head of Service (Children and Justice Services) for Moray Council and Moray Integration Joint Board. He will take up post in August.

Currently Service Director Social Work Services and Chief Social Work Officer at Dumfries and Galloway Council, Stephen is a qualified social worker with almost 30 years' experience in local government. He brings extensive leadership experience and a strong commitment to improving outcomes for children, adults, families and communities. Stephen succeeds Jim Lyon, who has served as Interim Chief Social Work Officer and Head of Service (Children and Justice Services) with the health and social care partnership since June 2024.

**New online pre-operative assessment service to launch** To improve the pre-operative assessment experience for individuals and staff alike, we are investing in an online service which will allow patients to complete the assessment questionnaire in the comfort of their own home. MyPreOp by Ultramed is an online system used to invite people to complete their questionnaire when it is time for their pre-operative assessment. It is being rolled out gradually, starting initially with General Surgery and ENT pre-operative assessment clinics in Aberdeen. The aim is to have it in use, across all adult pre-operative clinics, by the end of the year. [You can find out more about this service via this link.](#)

**In person VBRP® session, Monday 25 May, 1-2pm** Values Based Reflective Practice (VBRP®) is a moment in the present, to reflect on the past to influence your future practice. By intentionally setting time aside to reflect, VBRP® creates space to:

- Step back from your busy day to day work, draw breath and prioritise your own wellness in work
- Focus on what's important in the mist of what feels immediate and urgent
- Take stock of the impact your work has on you personally
- Review your practice and adapt it

VBRP® in a group has the added benefit of allowing you to connect with others in a safe, meaningful and structured way and a chance to learn from other people's reflections on their own practice and hear other people's perceptions. This small session will take place in Room 209 of the Suttie Centre, and is first come, first served. To book or a general chat about VBRP® please contact [gram.vbrp@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.vbrp@nhs.scot) or June Gordon [june.gordon@nhs.scot](mailto:june.gordon@nhs.scot)

### **Wellbeing, Culture, and Development Wednesday**

- **Management Development Programme** Our trusted programme equips current, or aspiring, managers with the skills and knowledge to lead effectively. The deadline is fast approaching for our June cohort, [follow this Turas link to find out more and apply](#) (log-in required)
- **Courageous Conversations** New Courageous Conversations session dates are now live. [Booking is via this Turas link.](#)
- **Time Management** This 90-minute course will help you identify poor habits, set goals, and use practical tools to plan and prioritise. [Boost your productivity by following this link to book your place.](#)

- **CAKE Sessions:** CAKE is a free, online resource to support team wellbeing and effectiveness. Whether you're new to CAKE or looking to deepen your understanding, we offer both taster sessions and in-depth slice sessions. [Simply follow this link to book.](#)
- **May's Wellbeing Talk** The topic this month is VBRP®. Join us next Thursday (28 May) 2-3pm, email [gram.wcd@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.wcd@nhs.scot) for the joining link.

For more information on any of these items or to raise any queries, please contact the team via [gram.wcd@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.wcd@nhs.scot)

**Tune of the day** Stacey Fraser, part of the payroll team, finishes up today on maternity leave. Colleagues in the HR Service Centre want to wish her all the best and can't wait to meet Baby Fraser when he arrives. They've asked for [Baby Boy](#) by Me and My (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](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot)