

Daily Brief...



Tuesday 21 October 2025

Ask Laura – an introduction Steven Lindsay, our employee director, sat down with new chief executive, Laura Skaife-Knight, to talk about her first few weeks in the role, our move to Stage 4 of the national performance framework, and the work underway around our Central Decontamination Unit. In this opening Ask Laura session, Laura reflects on what's stood out since joining NHS Grampian and the priorities she's focusing on for the months ahead. [You can watch the full conversation via this link](#). We'll be inviting your questions for future Ask Laura sessions — if there's something you'd like her to cover next time, email gram.communications@nhs.scot

Mammoth CDU effort continues A further update on work ongoing to restore surgical capacity following the shutdown of the Central Decontamination Unit at Foresterhill has been posted on our public website. Consultant clinical oncologist Rafael Moleron, who is supporting the recovery effort, said: "I would struggle to think of a team across the local health system not affected by the current situation in some way or going the extra mile to help us resolve the situation. We would really like to thank colleagues across the board for their patience, perseverance, commitment and understanding as we work to restore our surgical capacity."

[You can read the full news update by clicking this link.](#)

Pop-up staff 'flu vaccination clinic – this Thursday The Aberdeen City vaccination team will be at Rosewell House (Fern Unity lounge area) this coming Thursday (23 October), between 9.30am-4pm, offering staff 'flu vaccination. Drop-ins welcome. All NHS staff and social care staff with direct client contact are eligible for a free 'flu vaccination. As per JCVI recommendations, there is no offer of COVID-19 vaccination this winter.

Spiritual Care week This week is Spiritual Care Week - an international time to highlight and recognise the work of chaplains and spiritual care teams working in all sorts of sectors. Locally, we have a small team of healthcare chaplains providing patient, family, and staff support across the organisation and the three HSCPs.

Spiritual Care is all about what makes you tick, the things important to you, what you get up for in the morning, the things that make you, you. Our spiritual care staff help patients, service users, and colleagues connect - and reconnect - with these things, helping to make sense of challenging times, and look forward again. There will be some more updates as the week goes on, but if ever you want to find out more about the spiritual care team and what they do, please get in touch at gram.spiritualcare@nhs.scot.

Datix surgeries There are two Datix surgeries taking place next Tuesday (28 October), between 1-1.30pm and 1.30-2pm. 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 \(nhs.scot\)](#)

ICYMI - Aberdeenshire HSCP team talk – this afternoon Join Leigh Jolly, Chief Officer for Aberdeenshire HSCP, as she sets out her vision for the Partnership. This will take place this afternoon, between 4-5pm, on Teams. No need to book, [simply follow this link to join the meeting](#).

NHS Grampian Charity Did you know the NHS Grampian Charity supported more than 265 activities last year for patients in hospitals across Grampian? These ranged from arts and crafts sessions and strawberry teas to fish suppers and Halloween parties. Activities like these play an incredibly important role in keeping patients' spirits up when they are in hospital, especially if there are staying for an extended period. Would activities like these benefit the people you care for? If so, why not come along to our weekly virtual drop-in session on Teams to find out more about the types of activities we can support and how to apply. [Just click the link on our intranet page](#), the sessions take place every Thursday between 10-11am.

P&J Live ticket offer – 80s Live! If you're looking for something to do later this week (and watching the Dons in European action doesn't appeal), £10 tickets (booking fee to be added) are available for 80s Live! at P&J Live this Thursday (23 October). This jukebox concert, direct from the West End, includes the hits of Wham!, Madonna, Cyndi Lauper, The Human League, and many more. To purchase your tickets, [simply follow this link](#). As a reminder, due to the ticket provider used by this venue, accessing the link via a personal device is the smoothest experience.

Tune of the day If you saw the BBC coverage of our move to offer routine BBV testing in the Emergency Department, did you know the hands deftly working with a blood sample belonged to Gary Stuart, chief biomedical scientist in virology? In tribute to him, the virology team have requested Reef and [Place Your Hands](#) (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