

Wednesday 23 September 2026

ICNET upgrade and planned downtime As shared via Global email yesterday, an ICNET Clinical Surveillance System upgrade and planned downtime is underway and expected to run until 4pm this afternoon. During this period, the ability to undertake routine surveillance, respond to laboratory results, and identify and manage potential outbreaks will be reduced. Further information on the business continuity arrangements [can be found via this intranet link](#).

Appropriate use of sanctuary spaces We are fortunate to have several chapel/sanctuary spaces across our sites. These are spaces for patients, visitors, and staff to find peace and quiet and pray, ponder, or meditate according to their belief system. While some of these spaces, such as the Sandpiper Sanctuary in ARI, were designated as break areas during COVID restrictions, this is no longer the case. Chapels/sanctuaries must not be used for this purpose. We continue to get feedback about litter, feet on furniture, and other behaviour which has made it impossible for chapel/sanctuary users to find the space they need. Please put yourself in their shoes and respect these spaces, helping to keep them as the quiet refuge someone might really need. If you'd like to give feedback on any of these spaces, please email gram.spiritualcare@nhs.scot

Microsoft Publisher to be retired Microsoft have announced Microsoft Publisher will cease to be a supported product from October 2026. If you access MS Publisher 365 as part of your M365 Office 365 subscription, Publisher will be removed by Microsoft (and hence not accessible) from 1 October 2026.

If you have Publisher 2013 or 2016 installed on your device, it will continue to function in an unsupported state. This means Microsoft will no longer produce security updates covering the application therefore this introduces a cyber security risk. The recommendation from Microsoft is to convert your .pub files to PDF or Word format to minimise the risk of losing your work. Microsoft do not have a replacement application and are directing users towards Word and PowerPoint for similar publishing needs. They have shared [further guidance which is available via this link](#).

NMAHP preceptorship evaluation Public Services Delivery Scotland (PSD Scotland) is currently undertaking a national evaluation to explore how nursing, midwifery and Allied Health Professions preceptorship provision across Scotland aligns with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) and Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) preceptorship principles. This will also assess the impact of existing preceptorship programmes and resources. [A national questionnaire is available via this link](#) as part of the evaluation and will be open until Friday 27 November

Before taking part, [please read the Participant Information Sheet available at this link](#), which provides further details about the evaluation, how your information will be used, and your rights as a participant.

Draught proofing homes eLearning This module will equip you with the knowledge and confidence to include warm homes advice in everyday conversations. In less than an hour, individuals will develop practical skills to offer person-centred advice, identify common draughts, and share simple, low-cost measures that can help make homes warmer, more comfortable, and energy efficient. Cold, damp, and poorly ventilated homes can impact physical and mental health, particularly for those with respiratory or long-term conditions. [The module is available on via this Turas link](#).

Inspiring Quality Newsletter The latest edition of the Quality Assurance and Improvement team newsletter [is now available to view by following this link](#).

Wellbeing, Culture, and Development Wednesday

- **#CrucialConversations for senior leaders:** Learn practical skills to navigate high-stakes conversations, build trust, strengthen relationships, and achieve better outcomes through confident, effective communication. [For more information and booking, follow this Turas link](#) (log-in required).
- **Financial Check-in** Money on your mind? Join this week's Wellbeing Talk on Financial Wellbeing tomorrow (Thursday) 2-3pm via Teams. Email gram.wcd@nhs.scot for the meeting invite. Looking ahead? Book onto our 'Partial Retirement' and 'Retirement Planning for a Positive Future' sessions, with dates available throughout the rest of 2026. Take a positive step towards financial confidence and future planning. Take a few minutes to browse the available dates and book your place on Turas Learn, just follow the relevant link below:

[NHS Partial Retirement \(Draw Down\) | Turas | Learn](#)
[Retirement planning for a positive future | Turas | Learn](#)

For more information or to raise any queries, please contact the team via gram.wcd@nhs.scot

Tune of the day It's Libra season! Celebrating today is the one and only Bruce Springsteen, so to mark the occasion (and provide you with a midweek mellow moment) here's [Secret Garden](#) (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