

Daily Brief...



Friday 24 July 2026

Ask Laura – July edition Employee Director Steven Lindsay sat down with Laura Skaife-Knight earlier this week for the latest Ask Laura session, putting your questions to the Chief Executive.

[In this edition, available via this link](#), Laura covers topics including the future of the Orange Zone Café, rehabilitation services across Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire, person-centred meal ordering, and whether NHS staff should receive priority access to elective treatment. As always, if you want to skip to the section most relevant to you, simply follow the timestamp links below:

[00:24](#) – Laura's monthly update

[02:36](#) – Short Stay Unit and theatre capacity

[06:18](#) – Orange Zone Café

[10:12](#) – Rehabilitation services

[12:36](#) – NHS staff and elective treatment

[14:30](#) – Person-centred meal ordering and reducing food waste

As always, if you have a question you would like to raise in a future session, please email gram.communications@nhs.scot and let us know whether you would prefer it to be asked anonymously.

Reminder - organisational priorities – all-staff briefing You are invited to attend a 30-minute briefing next Tuesday (28 July) to hear the latest on progress against our organisational priorities. This will take place 2-2.30pm; [no need to book, simply follow this link to join](#).

Issues with blood gas results in Trakcare Following a system-wide issue on 16/17 July, and the subsequent fix, an issue with blood gas results imported into Trakcare has come to light. It appears results from 10-17 July have been re-transmitted as one upload. Therefore, results are appearing in the patient record with an incorrect time stamp on the 17 July that are a duplicate of earlier ones from the preceding week. Results appearing in the patient record at approximately 5pm on 17 July may therefore be duplicates of results reported earlier in the week (these results are correct and have not been compromised).

This has been reported to the vendor for further action. Meantime, a complete record with accurate time stamps is available if required on request from the POCT team via gram.poct@nhs.scot

Marsden scales annual service The schedule for the upcoming Marsden scales annual service is now [available via this link](#). Engineers will be on site over the next few months, to ensure all eligible scales (medical grade and free to service) are presented for calibration. This includes:

- Standing scales (Marsden / SECA)
- Sitting / hoist scales (ARJO / Liko)

To help ensure that no scale is missed during this years' service, please share this information across your areas where scales may be in use and require servicing. If you have any queries or require further information, please contact gram.nme@nhs.scot.

Visiting international students – share your expertise Next month we will welcome four visiting students from Manipal University in India as part of an international educational exchange. We are looking for individuals, services and teams who would be interested in showcasing their area of work and sharing insights into the wide range of roles, specialties, and innovations. This could include clinical services, multidisciplinary teams, quality improvement initiatives, education, research, or examples of excellent practice.

If you or your team would be interested in being involved, either for this visit, or more generally for University of Aberdeen medical students, please contact Emma Rae via emma.rae1@nhs.scot.

That was the week that was

Monday 20 – NHS vehicles – check it before you drive it, updates to transmission-based precautions coming soon

Tuesday 21 – reminder of Personal Use of Social Media policy, non-exec board members: what they do

Wednesday 22 – staffing update – Executive Nurse Director, don't get hooked by phishing emails

Thursday 23 – Executive Team weekly report, diabetes education programme

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 We bow before Sarah McDonald, SCN in the ARI emergency department, following her recent STAR Award presentation. Sarah was nominated for her outstanding leadership, professionalism and compassion while supporting a patient during a suspected stroke admission. Her kindness, reassurance and person-centred approach during a highly stressful situation made a lasting difference, while her calm leadership helped create a supportive environment for both the patient and wider team. Congratulations, Sarah! 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](#).

Tune of the day It's Friday; [Let's Dance](#). For those of you on-shift this weekend, I wish you well. For those getting some downtime, it's perfectly ok to stop and rest. You don't need to be on the go 24/7. 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.communications@nhs.scot