

Daily Brief...



Thursday 25 June 2026

RACH achieves Magnet® designation Congratulations to colleagues at RACH on achieving Magnet® designation with distinction for care excellence – the highest possible international standard for nursing care. RACH has become the first children's hospital in Europe and the first hospital in Scotland to achieve Magnet® designation. In the run up to designation, patients, family members, staff and members of the wider public were invited to offer feedback, the team has journeyed through an extensive evidence gathering process and they welcomed visitors from the American Nurses Credentialing Centre (ANCC) to RACH to assess their work at the end of April. You can read more about RACH's Magnet® success [by following this link](#).

Patient catering – contingency measures to continue Repairs required to the blast chillers and holding fridge in the DGH production kitchen could take a number of weeks. As such, the temporary menus for DGH and all community hospitals in Aberdeenshire and Moray remain in place. IDDSI (Dysphasia Meals) Level 4 and 5 meals are being bought in from external suppliers; unfortunately, we are unable to provide Level 4 snacks at this time. The catering team apologise again for the inconvenience and thank everyone for their patience.

Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme update If you are a current PVG Scheme Member, who has not moved to the new five-year scheme membership, Disclosure Scotland will be contacting you in the future. They will use the email address they have on record for you. If you did not provide Disclosure Scotland with your email address, or cannot remember if you did, it is very important that you tell them now. Please email dsupdate@disclosurescotland.gov.scot with the subject header 'Email address update', and include your:

- name
- date of birth
- PVG scheme number
- current email address

Disclosure Scotland will use your email address to contact you about your PVG scheme membership. If they do not receive an update from you directly, they may contact your employer to obtain this information. If you do not have an email address, please let them know of any alternative contact details.

Executive Team update Please see below for the report from this week's Executive Team meeting:

Matters for escalation	Major actions commissioned/ work underway
Planned Care Capacity and Infrastructure Constraints: Delivery of planned care trajectories presents a system-wide coordination challenge, particularly around orthopaedics. Reduced Short Stay theatre capacity linked to ventilation issues which requires sub-national collaboration. Actions include strengthening narrative on capacity constraints, exploring shared solutions across East region, and progressing infrastructure investment planning. Progress on funding allocations remains uncertain; further clarity and alignment required which the CEO and Chief Officer for Acute have agreed to take forward, including wider system support to address 104-week waits, recognising NHS Grampian is an outlier. Financial Position and Savings Delivery: Financial sustainability remains challenging, with savings delivery behind plan in key areas (including medical locums). Actions include deep dives via Value and Sustainability Programme Board and strengthened oversight of delivery plans. Position at the end of Month 2 remains on track but tight; continued focus is required to avoid in-year pressures.	Drug Harm Reduction and System Response: National summit attended by the First Minister and Ministers, including the IJB Chief Officer Aberdeen highlighted increasing complexity of drug harms and need for coordinated system response. Actions underway focus on prevention, improved data sharing, education, and whole-system collaboration. Local position stable; engagement through regional structures and continued monitoring agreed. Health and Safety improvements: Current approach considered reactive with limited organisational visibility. Actions commissioned include developing a blueprint model, clarifying governance structures, strengthening reporting lines, and enabling internal assurance activity. Engagement with divisions and partners planned to embed revised approach.
Positive assurances to provide	Decisions made
Mental Health Safety Programme – Ward 4, Dr Gray's Hospital: Ligature risk reduction programme progressing as planned, with enabling works scheduled and phased delivery approach in place. Community alternatives established to mitigate bed reductions. Staff Experience and Engagement: Staff survey results (iMatter 2026) indicate modest improvement across key indicators including overall engagement measures. Response rates increased. Further detailed analysis and action planning underway, with quarterly pulse surveys to be introduced from Quarter 2 to ensure more real-time staff feedback.	Invest to Save Programme Submissions: Agreement to progress submission of ten priority schemes, including 5 AI-enabled proposals, with requirement to strengthen implementation resourcing and align governance to existing programme boards. Further validation required on 4 additional lower-maturity bids. Frailty bed reconfiguration strategic direction endorsed: Executive and Unscheduled Care Programme Delivery Board agreement that proposed frailty model represents appropriate direction, subject to refinement of financial assumptions, timelines, and delivery assurances. Final proposal to return to Executive Team for approval on 30 June 2026.

TrakCare – two reminders

- **Results preferences** It is important to make sure your TrakCare results management preferences are set correctly so that you see all results relevant to you. Dr Jamie Smith, consultant nephrologist and EPR clinical change agent (Digital) [has created the short video available via this link](#) to demonstrate the correct setup. If you have any questions, [please use this link to join](#) the Digital Training Team (use code dj950s4 to join channel) or [follow this link to book a 1:1 session](#). You should also contact the Digital Training Team if, despite having the correct preferences configured, you do not see results you would expect to receive, or you are seeing multiple results that are not linked to you.
- **Password reset** Most TrakCare password resets can now be completed without contacting the Service Desk, allowing you to regain access more quickly. If you have an nhs.scot email address, use 'Reset Password' on the TrakCare login screen – a reset link will be sent to your inbox. If you do not have an nhs.scot email address, please ensure your security questions in ADUpdater are completed before contacting the Service Desk.

Staff discounts We've added some great events to our staff discounts page: free tickets to Bongo's Bingo tomorrow night and discounts on a range of performances at Aberdeen Arts Centre. [All the details can be found via this link to Your Space](#), which is where you'll find details of all the discounts on offer to you as NHS Grampian staff.

Tune of the day Our first request today is for Sam Smith who, after 13 years with the NHS, is finishing up and off to pastures new. Her colleagues past and present wish her lots of luck and send her off with one of her favourite tunes: Black Veil Brides and [In the End](#).

Stuart Donald (catering manager) is shouting out colleagues who are Glasgow bound for Metallica at Hampden tonight; [For Whom The Bell Tolls](#) should see you right.

Oh, football. It's the hope that kills you. For now, we wait to see if Scotland's men can maybe, maybe, get out of their group. The Marvelettes and [I'll Keep Holding On](#) feels apt (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