

Daily Brief...



Tuesday 25 November 2025

NHS Grampian Charity – staff social activities programme This is now open to staff who would like to claim £10 towards a social activity with colleagues off-site. The application form can be found on the [charity's intranet site via this link](#). All activities must be completed and forms returned to the charity by 31 March 2026.

A short life working group has been set up by the charity to understand your current wellbeing and development priorities and needs, and to consider what support the charity might best provide in the future in line with its charitable purpose and legal obligations and develop a programme that allows staff to access funds that ultimately results in positive benefit for Grampian patients.

The working group, commencing this month, will have representation from across the organisation and will gather views and feedback from colleagues. If you would like to get involved in the working group, please contact gram.charities@nhs.scot. We aim to make an announcement early next year on what staff support will be available in future.

Sexual harassment prevention/awareness training – tomorrow A virtual training session open to all staff focusing on tackling sexual harassment within the workplace will take place tomorrow (Wednesday, 26 November) between 1-2.30pm. The training will provide information on Gender and the dynamics of sexual harassment, impact in the workplace, awareness of acceptable and unacceptable behaviour and how to prevent sexual harassment within teams. No need to book, simply follow this joining link at the start of the event: [Join the meeting now](#)

Referring for Blood Tests at Secondary Care Hubs The hubs continue to see more than 500 patients each month **without** blood tests requested on Trak. This results in outpatient staff having to contact clinical teams asking for the request to be added, which is time-consuming and unsustainable. To avoid appointment cancellations - which can delay diagnosis or treatment - please ensure all required blood tests are ordered via Order Comms and available for your patient's appointment.

For patients who need frequent blood tests, you can create multiple requests at once by adjusting the start date when requesting on Order Comms. This feature is underused and could significantly reduce unnecessary follow-up by outpatient staff as well as reducing your workload. If there are challenges preventing you from requesting investigations, please let us know so we can work together on a solution. Please refer to Grampian Guidance for more information or contact us with any queries: Jennifer Fraser (jennifer.fraser2@nhs.scot) or Andrea Dryburgh (andrea.dryburgh@nhs.scot)

Staff cervical screening clinics Cervical screening is an important way to detect cancer early. However, finding time to attend appointments can be challenging. Over the winter period, we will be piloting and running weekly staff cervical screening clinics within ARI to make attending your smear test easier. If you are due or overdue for cervical screening, this is a great opportunity to get screened more conveniently.

Screening appointments will be held in the Yellow Zone at ARI; to book an appointment, please call 01224 553353, Monday-Friday, between 8.30am-4.30pm. For more information on the screening programmes available in Scotland, [please follow this link to NHS Inform](#).

16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence Today is International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and the start of 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence. This is a global campaign calling for an end to violence in all its forms. The campaign runs until 10 December (Human Rights Day). There will be events taking place across Grampian over the next 16 days, including Reclaim The Night marches in Aberdeen and Elgin tonight. [The full event list is available at this link](#).

ICYMI - 2024/25 Discretionary Points- Peer Review The application window for the 2024/25 Discretionary Points round is closed. The Peer Review process will be open for consultants from 1-19 December. Should you wish to review the anonymized applications within your specialty grouping, please contact gram.discretionarypoints@nhs.scot to arrange an appointment.

Need office furniture? Don't buy new – re-use! Our procurement and sustainability teams want to make it easier than ever to reuse and redistribute office furniture across the organisation. Browse the [WARP-IT Reuse Portal](#) to see what's up for grabs. Add items to your Wish List so others know what you're looking for.

Book Blether – seasonal reads For winter, the Library and Knowledge Service are collaborating with our Spiritual Care team to reflect on life, dying, and the care we provide. They are doing this via the work of Kathryn Mannix and her book 'With The End In Mind'. Book Blether is not a lecture or a course; it's an informal space to connect with colleagues. Everyone working in health and social care is very welcome to join; [there's much more information on the intranet news via this link](#). If you don't have access to an NHS device, [you can check out the seasonal reads update by following this link](#).

Tune of the day Reggae legend Jimmy Cliff has left the stage for the final time, passing away at the age of 81. His role in the 1972 film The Harder They Come is credited with bringing reggae to the US, so let's [have the title song as our tune of the day](#) (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