

Friday 30 January 2026

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**CDU update** Our Chief Executive, Laura Skaife-Knight, and Executive Nurse Director and Deputy Chief Executive June Brown would like to share their thanks and appreciation for efforts to get our Central Decontamination Unit at Foresterhill back up and running.

*We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all of the staff who have supported the extensive Central Decontamination Unit (CDU) refurbishment and recovery work over recent months. Thanks to your collective effort, the unit will begin processing this morning as training gets underway for staff. The installation of the first of our new CDU machines has been completed on schedule and this is an important milestone in restoring full capacity. Your exceptional commitment throughout this challenging period is greatly appreciated, has ensured that disruption to patients has been minimised and the resilience of this vital service has been improved.*

**Scottish Quality and Safety Fellowship (SQSF) Cohort 18 applications open** The SQSF is built around a series of distance learning, coaching, and focused residential workshops. All Fellows undertake an improvement project throughout their participation on the programme and are expected to work on this as part of their day job. It is open to healthcare staff who currently undertake clinical practice and have a direct influence on improving the delivery of safe patient care, as well as staff in clinical professions who do not currently deliver hands-on care but do have a role in improving patient care or safety.

Selection will be by application and interview. The application pack and person specification is available [on Turas by following this link](#). Applications close at 10am on Friday 10 April. Colleagues are asked to submit their draft application to [gram.qiat@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.qiat@nhs.scot) by 12 noon on Friday 21 March to allow time for review and executive sign-off. Interviews will be held online during w/c 8 June. Informal enquiries about the Fellowship can be made to Gillian Poskitt via [gillian.poskitt@nhs.scot](mailto:gillian.poskitt@nhs.scot) and you can be linked in with a previous SQSF who works in NHS Grampian for support and guidance on your application.

**Reduced Working Week update** A new online [RWW P/T Hours Retention Form](#) is now available for managers to share details of any part-time member of staff who it has been agreed will retain their current part-time hours when the final reduction for the Reduced Working Week (RWW) is implemented on 1 April 2026. This form should not be used for any other purpose and should be completed by 15 February.

The new form is a substitute for an eESS transaction for RWW only. The details provided on the form will be used to retain the member of staff's current part-time hours on eESS, Payroll and SSTS/Optima. No other system notification is required.

Please note the form must not be used for changes to part-time hours that are not related to the retention of hours from 1 April 2026. The normal process applies for all other changes to part-time hours i.e. an eESS transaction and for Optima rosters advance notification to the eRostering team.

**ICYMI - assessing the value of NHS outdoor spaces** The NHS Scotland Climate Emergency and Sustainability Strategy requires all health boards assess the value of the benefits arising from use of the NHS outdoor estate. The University of Aberdeen and Public Health Scotland (PHS) are carrying out research to understand the health and wellbeing and economic values of the NHS Scotland outdoor estate to those working at NHS Scotland sites.

All staff are encouraged to take part, [by following this link](#), and sharing your experience of NHS greenspace, blue space, and biodiversity. The survey is live and open until **28 February 2026**.

**Lab newsletters** The latest in the series of lab newsletters are now available online:

[Secondary care newsletter](#)

[Primary care newsletter](#)

### **That was the week that was**

Monday 26 – ARI adult parenteral nutrition ordering and Patient Placement Too

Tuesday 27 – AHSCP Chief Officer Session and VPAG Opportunity

Wednesday 28 – RGU webinars and Medical Appraiser Webinar

Thursday 29 – Chief Executive Drop-in Session and Heating Update

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 send heartfelt congratulations to Stephen Main, lead nurse for immunisations & CTAC on his recent STAR Award presentation. He was nominated in recognition of his exceptional leadership, with a focus on kindness and humility, always making time to listen, support others, and step in during busy periods, showing that no task is beneath him. His dedication to putting people first makes him a valued role model and truly deserving of this recognition. Do 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** Well it's Friday, Friday, gotta get down on Friday, and to help us do so, it's the Tune of the Day. You don't need us to tell you that, on this day in 1973 a band formerly known as Wicked Lester made their first live appearance under their new monicker, KISS. So, to rock us into the weekend, here are the face painted retirees with [Detroit Rock City](#).

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](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot)