

Daily Brief...

Thursday 30 July 2026

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

Matters of concern or key risks to escalate	Major Actions Commissioned/ Work Underway
- Continued challenges in unscheduled care, delayed discharges and planned care waiting times were highlighted, with recognition that current improvement efforts are not yet demonstrating the pace or consistency of change required. Additional focus will be placed on the culture change needed, accountability, day-to-day operational delivery, leadership and roles and responsibilities. - Ongoing backlogs in complaints, adverse event reviews and Information Governance activity continue to require improvement support, with further work planned to strengthen recovery arrangements and provide assurance on progress.	- Mapping of national and sub-national clinical service developments will be undertaken to provide a clearer understanding of emerging service changes and their implications for NHS Grampian, with further discussion planned through Executive Team sessions, and visibility of who is representing NHS Grampian in each of these spaces to ensure our voice is heard. - Performance and governance arrangements for planned care, unscheduled care, quality and safety, and strategic priorities are being strengthened, including improved reporting, clearer accountability, enhanced scrutiny and a move towards more integrated performance reporting. - Additional support arrangements are being developed for planned care recovery, including a stronger programme management approach, service planning work, workforce and job planning reviews, and implementation of national improvement requirements. Terms of Reference for an NHS Grampian Planned Care Improvement Support Group (Scotland East) have been agreed and were shared with the Executive Group, which meets for the first time this week.

Positive Assurances to Provide	Decisions made
• Work remains on track across several strategic priorities, including prevention and people, leadership and governance, with governance structures in place to monitor delivery and address emerging issues.	• The Executive Team approved the refreshed Performance Assurance and Reporting Framework for 2026/27, which will be recommended to the Board for final approval at the public Board meeting on 13 August 2026. • It was agreed strategic risks should remain aligned to existing risk categories rather than creating an additional standalone risk, with further refinement of risk descriptions and mitigations to be undertaken. • Executive leads confirmed overall quarter one strategic priority assessments, with prevention and people, leadership and governance assessed as on track, while urgent care and planned care remain off track and subject to enhanced oversight and recovery actions.

Don't let the phishers reel you in As a large public sector organisation, handling a significant amount of confidential information, we are a prime target for phishing attacks. The cyber security team closely monitor threats and trends in this area and information on the latest scams are published on their intranet page. [Please use this link to check out the latest and keep yourself informed about the risks.](#)

Reminder - asbestos policy consultation This policy is currently out for consultation. Further information, including the draft policy, [can be found on the intranet via this link](#). The consultation will close on 20 August.

Tune of the day It's Jamie McNaughton's last day with the information governance team, as he moves on to a new role in the organisation. Colleagues, led by Ellyse Macdonald, want to wish him all the very best. Jamie is a big Radiohead fan, so for him, here's [Weird Fishes](#)

Also having a last day today is primary care support manager Zoe Howie, who is finishing up on maternity leave. Dianne and Vrinda want to wish her all the best and dedicate [Baby Love](#) to her, saying they can't wait to meet the baby.

Thanks to Ann Stewart, resilience and health & safety officer in Aberdeenshire HSCP, for pointing out today is International Day of Friendship. With that in mind, [You're My Best Friend](#) by Queen seems rather 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