

# Daily Brief...



Wednesday 4 February 2026

**Update from Chief Executive Team** Here is the summary of this week's meeting of the Chief Executive Team (CET). This table is shared weekly to keep everyone updated; your feedback on the format is welcomed via [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot)

Matters of Concern or Key Risks to Escalate	Major Actions Commissioned/ Work Underway
<p><b>Acute sector governance &amp; risk register overhaul commissioned;</b> Workshops and alignment work planned. Current risk register entries do not reflect actual mitigation work; Datix structure and time constraints limiting quality. Need to examine alignment with Board-level scoring. Infrastructure &amp; Health and Safety groups re-established. Clear leadership focus on addressing risk visibility and governance quality.</p> <p><b>LIMS (APEX → National System Replacement):</b> Potential six-month service gap identified between APEX retirement and national system readiness. Requires CET decision-making. Combined SBAR drafted by Digital and Labs; paper to return to CET next week.</p> <p><b>Financial Sustainability:</b> Initial savings plans for NHSG and three HSCEPs were shared to understand any potential impact on the system</p>	<p><b>Escalation/de-escalation criteria:</b> Work is underway to prepare materials reflecting Board feedback and the updated de-escalation criteria ahead of a dedicated CET discussion on 11/02.</p> <p><b>Organisational priorities 2026/2027:</b> CET session scheduled 05/02. Comms &amp; engagement plan in active development. Clear, structured programme demonstrating whole-system coordination.</p> <p><b>Sub-national planning (regional programmes):</b> Orthopaedics and Unscheduled Care groups meet weekly, with data gathering and baseline-setting progressing. Unscheduled Care has a clear timeline across themes (navigation centres, virtual wards, escalation &amp; command). Some national groups still lack Grampian representation.</p>
Positive Assurances to Provide	Decisions Made

**GP Teaching Hub:** Positive progress reported with supportive feedback from NES and endorsement from clinical visitors. Still awaiting the formal funding confirmation letter, which remains outstanding and requires follow-up. CET noted this work positively and will continue monitoring progress.

**Unscheduled Care:** Reduction in maximum ambulance handover threshold already showing improvements (only one breach last week). Early signs of reduced corridor care following 10-before-10 implementation; although sustained pressure continues across flow and capacity. Pharmacy focus week in progress. Slippage funding options being explored. Programme Board shifting to fortnightly cycle with interim exec checkpoints.

**GP Walk-In Centre (18-Month Funding):** Successful funding secured for 18-month pilot. CET to receive full paper next week.

**Internal Audit Plan:** Revised mapping and updates being completed based on CET feedback. CET will review the updated draft before Audit & Risk Committee. Strong constructive engagement; Internal Audit responsive and adapting.

**Safe use of toasters** In an average year, there are 250 attendances by Scottish Fire & Rescue crews following fire alarms on our sites, at an indicative cost to the public purse of £2000 per attendance. A significant number of these alarms are caused by toasters and could be easily avoided by taking the following steps:

- Never leave toasters unattended. If you have to leave the room, switch them off.
- Do not place under wall units or near to posters; the radiated heat can cause a fire.
- Toasters should only be those ordered via Pecos; don't bring personal devices into work.

The fire safety team have produced a poster, [available on the intranet via this link](#), and we would encourage you to display this in your work area.

**Update - heating in Ashgrove House, Foresterhill House & Annex** Following a major issue with the steam pipe feeding Ashgrove House/Foresterhill House & Annex, the priority has been restoring heat to clinical areas. This work is nearly complete and colleagues in those areas should have normal service restored today (Wednesday)

Restoring heating in all parts of these buildings will require a longer-term fix and is hampered by structural issues around the existing steam pipe. Colleagues in Facilities and Estates are urgently looking at potential solutions. We appreciate the absence of heating in these buildings is a challenge and we apologise for any inconvenience. Further updates will be shared via this brief as available.

**Car park closure – Ashgrove House** Please be aware the car park at the rear of Ashgrove House will be CLOSED between 6pm and 6am, Monday 9-Wednesday 11 February (inclusive) for survey works. All vehicles – including pool cars – must be removed by 6pm each evening and there will be no access until 6am the following morning. Please note the closure also applies to the access road into this car park. Thank you for your co-operation and apologies for any inconvenience.

**Seminar cancellation** We've been advised today's seminar, offered by RGU's School of Pharmacy, Applied Sciences and Public Health & School of Health has been cancelled. [Details of other seminars in their Wednesday series can be found via this intranet link.](#)

**Reproductive health and childbirth network newsletter and lunch and learn reminder** The latest newsletter from the NRS reproductive health and childbirth network [is available to read via this link](#). The network's next lunch and learn will take place on Wednesday 18 February, 12-12.55pm. This informal session - entitled 'PEPPY Trial and The Diagnostic Journey of Uterine Adenomyosis' - will be hosted live on Microsoft Teams. You can book your spot [now by following this link](#). If you are interested in presenting your work, suggesting topics, or collaborating on future webinars, please contact Champion Support Manager, Annie Ganguly on [anushree.ganguly@nhs.scot](mailto:anushree.ganguly@nhs.scot)

**RCN Scotland Nurse of the Year awards** We are thrilled to announce we have FOUR finalists at this year's awards. Congratulations to Caroline Reid (Clinical Leadership Award), Laura Reid and Vicky Burnett (Learning in Practice Award), and Patricia Dow (Adult Nursing Award) on making the shortlist. We wish them all the very best of luck ahead of the award ceremony in April.

### **Wellbeing, Culture, and Development Wednesday**

- **Time to Talk Day** Taking place tomorrow (5 February), this is the nation's biggest mental health conversation. It's a day for all of us to come together to talk, listen, and change lives. [There's more information available on the MIND website via this link.](#)
- **CAKE sessions** CAKE is a free, online resource to support team wellbeing and effectiveness. Whether you're new to CAKE or looking to deepen your understanding, we offer both taster sessions and in-depth slice sessions. [Follow this link to book your spot](#) (Turas log-in required)
- **Race Equality** It may be race equality week ([more information available via this link](#)), but it isn't just a focus for a week or a specific day; it's a priority all year round. To highlight this commitment, Laura Skaife-Knight will join the Staff Equalities Network on Wednesday 18 February. To read more and get involved by submitting your questions to Laura [just follow this link](#).

For more information or to raise any queries, please contact the team via [gram.wcd@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.wcd@nhs.scot)

**Tune of the day** Congratulations to Mental Health and Learning Disability Services who will be progressing their Pathway to Excellence journey with the launch of a staff survey in March. Senior Charge Nurse David Anderson has written a song to mark the occasion – here's [I Stayed](#).

Popping in a second request in tribute to our RCN Scotland Nurse of the Year awards finalists (see above); we're so proud of you all! To celebrate you, here's Camille Yarborough and [Take Yo' Praise](#) (one I was holding in reserve for our 'samples' week. You'll see) (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](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot)