

Daily Brief...



Thursday 8 January 2026

Strike action - next week As a reminder, resident doctor members of BMA Scotland have stated their intention to take strike action next week. This is part of an ongoing dispute with the Scottish Government over pay. The strike is scheduled to begin at 7am on Tuesday 13 January and end at 7am on Saturday 17 January. Planning is taking place to mitigate the impact of this strike on our services. If you are unsure about the planning underway in your service, please speak to your line manager.

There is a dedicated page on the intranet – [Clinical Signposting for Senior Doctors](#) – which contains information on clinical duties senior doctors may be less familiar with.

Reminder - weather disruption – 4x4 requests All 4x4 transport support requests, whether for NHS Grampian, Aberdeen City/Aberdeenshire/Moray health and social care partnerships, or for Scottish Ambulance Service should be sent to: gram.arimicontrolroom@nhs.scot only. Please ensure you use 'Transport Cell' in the subject line. We are still receiving a high volume of requests; please note these are clinically prioritised, with urgent patient transport being at the top of the list.

Staying with the weather, a request from linen services to ensure linen is used for patients only, not to dry off wet weather gear, etc. Thank you.

Ask Laura – Staff Q&A In the latest Ask Laura session, [available to watch via this link](#), Employee Director Steven Lindsay puts questions from colleagues across the organisation to our Chief Executive, Laura Skaife-Knight. This conversation was recorded in late December, but we've held it back until now so more people would have the chance to watch it, and a few references in the video reflect that timing.

As usual we've included questions specific links below, so you can skip to the topics most of interest.

- [Update from Laura](#)
- [Dr Gray's role and visibility in the system](#)
- [Speaking up when teams are at full stretch](#)
- [How we set priorities when everything feels urgent](#)
- [Firefighting vs making space for improvement](#)
- [Central Decontamination Unit: disruption and long-term fix](#)
- [CDU safety, sampling and learning from the incident](#)
- [Recruitment vs retention and building stable consultant teams](#)
- [Band 5 matching delays and plans to increase capacity](#)

If you have any feedback, or a question you'd like Laura to consider, please email gram.communications@nhs.scot. Remember to indicate if you'd like your question asked anonymously

Revised diabetic foot ulceration pathway A revised diabetic foot ulceration pathway is now in place. Following valuable feedback from key stakeholders, the pathway has been split into two sections; section one providing information to support the referrers, with recommendations around key actions to progress while waiting for a specialist's podiatry assessment. Section two will provide information which is Podiatry specific; this section is still in the process of being finalised.

A learning event hosted by the Diabetic Foot Interest Group has been arranged for Tuesday 25 February 2026, from 12.30-4.30pm at MacGillivray Conference Centre Aberdeen Maternity Hospital. To register, please follow this link: [Registration NHSG Diabetic Foot Learning Event](#). Meantime, should you have any queries, please contact Leigh Porter at leigh.porter@nhs.scot.

ARI adult parenteral nutrition ordering and administration The paperwork accompanying adult parenteral nutrition in ARI will be changing from Monday 12 January 2026. Please refer to the FAQ document, [available via this intranet link](#), for full details.

Entrance closure & reduced seating at Aroma Cairngorm Essential maintenance work will take place at Aroma Cairngorm from Monday 12 to Wednesday 14 January. During the works, the entrance directly opposite M&S on the main concourse will be closed and seating in the cafe will be reduced. To ensure members of the public and visitors have priority access to the available seating, we're asking staff to make takeaway purchases and use the seating in the Pink and Orange Zone cafes during the works.

All maintenance is expected to be completed by Wednesday afternoon, and normal access and seating arrangements will resume once the area has been fully reopened. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding during this short period of disruption.

NIHR associate Principal Investigator (PI) scheme alumni event Taking place on Thursday 22 January, this half-day virtual event is aimed at alumni of the associate (PI) Scheme, the Principal Investigator Pipeline Programme (PIPP) and Clinician Researcher Credentials Framework as well as anyone interested in expanding their research horizons, learning from experienced colleagues, and connecting with the wider NIHR and research community. You can find out more about this event and register [by following this link](#). For further information on the API or PIPP schemes please contact our local API Champion Louise Osborne (louise.osborne4@nhs.scot)

Tune of the day Still shouting out those with big birthdays this year; if 2026 is the year you turn 30, then [Say You'll Be There](#) (For the avoidance of doubt, this weather is absolutely sending me to the fair. How about you?) (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