

Thursday 9 April 2026

All-staff call with CET You are warmly invited to join members of the Chief Executive Team on an all-staff call next Monday (13 April) between 4-4.30pm. This is your opportunity to hear the very latest on what's happening across the organisation and is separate from the briefings underway about the 2026/27 organisational priorities. You can submit questions in advance (anonymously, if preferred) by emailing gram.communications@nhs.scot These sessions are recorded and a link shared in this brief for those unable to attend. [No need to book, simply use this joining link.](#)

Band 5 nursing review As a reminder, this is part of the 2023/24 Agenda for Change pay agreement, and it allows nurses currently working at Band 5 to request a re-evaluation of their post, with a possible regrade to Band 6. There is further information and [a link to the application portal available at this link](#). A few things we wanted to remind you of:

- This is open to all Band 5 nurses currently employed by the NHS in Scotland. You have the complete support of the organisation to request a review of your position.
- There is currently no closing date for this review.
- Applications are worked through in order of the date received. We have had significant interest in this review and ask for your patience. We are currently processing applications submitted in April 2025.
- We have introduced batching in areas where there have been several applications from staff who have the same manager. Please note in the event the information in the questionnaire is not sufficient we may not be able to batch every application, if this is the case the application will revert to the normal matching process in date order as outline above.

Questions? We're here to help. Please contact gram.band5JE@nhs.scot with your query.

Confidential waste Pink/white bags containing confidential waste must always be properly secured prior to collection and must never be left in public areas for general collection. Please ensure you contact your local portering team to arrange uplift.

Prevention and Management of Violence and Aggression (PMVA) Level 1 training – refresh period extended The health and safety team have recently extended the refresher periods of the face to face 'PMVA: Level 1 (breakaways)' course to **2 years**. All other face to face PMVA courses should be refreshed every 18 months.

Leading an Empowered Organisation (LEO) training – spaces available There are spaces available on the upcoming LEO courses, as follows:

- 20-22 April (senior leaders, Band 8 and above)
- 28-30 April
- 27-29 May
- 16-18 June

We have several places available for clinical and non-clinical colleagues working at Band 5 and above as well as spaces in the senior leaders cohort, aimed at those working at Band 8 and above. If you would like to book a space or would like further information, please email gram.leo@nhs.scot

Talking Mats training – new dates available Talking Mats is a visual framework which uses picture symbols to help people with communication difficulties. It has the potential for use with a wide range of people and is an approach which helps them think about issues and provides them with a way of expressing their views more easily. The Learning Disability Service have in-house trainers, and training is available on 12 May and 16 June. These are half day sessions, and you must attend both sessions. [Follow this link to further information on the intranet.](#)

Vaisakhi special menu – next Tuesday To mark the Sikh festival of Vaisakhi next Tuesday (14 April), there will be a special menu on offer in the Orange Zone cafe at ARI. £6 will get you a buffet platter, including samosa, sag aloo, and chana butter masala.

Tune of the day A request from our retail catering team today, by way of thanks to everyone for their understanding, as most of our retail units remain cash only (**except** Aroma ECC and Jubilee). They are so grateful for the understanding and patience you have shown as customers. Recognition must go in particular to Jacqui Cumming, catering support manager, for her fantastic efforts to get the problem resolved. Their request? What else but [Money, Money, Money](#) by ABBA (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