

Daily Brief...



Monday 9 February 2026

Potential disruption during migration of locally hosted IT systems, 10-13 February To ensure our IT systems continue to run on modern, resilient, fit for purpose infrastructure, the Digital Directorate will migrate locally hosted servers and systems to new network infrastructure, starting tomorrow.

The work has been planned to minimise disruption, however, some brief and minor interruptions to systems may occur during the migration period. As per good practice, please ensure you save your work regularly. If any issues are experienced, please wait a few moments and try again. In the unexpected eventuality that issues persist for a longer period, please try rebooting your computer. If problems continue, please log a call with the IT service desk on extension 54444 (01224 554444) or, preferably, [using the ServiceNow online portal, available via this link](#).

Planned Care update The latest meeting of the Planned Care Programme Board continued to focus on improving access to care and reducing long waits for patients across NHS Grampian. Recent work has included restoring capacity in key services, securing additional national funding, and closely monitoring progress to make sure support is targeted where it is most needed. This includes confirmation of £6m additional funding support from Scottish Government to see and treat patients currently waiting over 52-weeks across our new outpatient and elective in-patient and day case pathways during the remainder of this financial year and Quarter 1, 2026/27.

The Board also reflected on improvements to dermatology pathways aided by digital platforms which are now helping to reduce long waits and providing high confidence that performance targets for this service will be met. While pressures remain, risks are actively being managed, progress is being monitored weekly, collaborative work with independent sector providers and other health boards continues to ensure we maintain our current momentum and improvements in care for our patients.

New drug alerts Last week, Public Health Scotland (PHS) issued two new drug alerts. They illustrate the rapidly changing drug scene and provide information about new, unfamiliar substances which have been detected in Scotland.

[The medetomidine alert available via this link](#) highlights the emergence of a new sedative drug. It is likely to be consumed unknowingly and has most commonly been detected in drugs sold as heroin and benzodiazepines. [The new benzodiazepines alert which can be read via this link](#) highlights ongoing changes to the street benzo market.

Please read the alerts carefully and share them with colleagues and patients/clients as required.

Cervical screening - staff clinics Dedicated staff screening appointments are available at ARI, Dr Gray's, and Maryhill Group Practice in Elgin until the end of March. If you are due (or overdue) for a cervical screen and find it difficult to attend a routine appointment, [you can find more information on the intranet by following this link](#). Please note, you do not need to be registered with Maryhill Group Practice to attend a staff screening clinic there.

Datix reporting of Adverse Events related to 'Portering' and 'Domestic & Support Services'

Reporting adverse events related to Portering activity can vary according to location. For further guidance, [please read this intranet article carefully](#). Correct reporting is vital as it ensures the right line managers see the reports and can manage it appropriately. Thank you for your co-operation.

Paediatric MTC Education Session The occupational therapy service in Aberdeen City & 'Shire is the topic of the next Paediatric MTC education session, taking place on Thursday (12 February) between 12-1pm on Teams. This will be presented by Tamsin Jones and Donna Davidson. No need to book, simply [use this joining link](#).

Grampian experts lead the way Well done to Tracy Cameron, ketogenic diet co-ordinator for the North of Scotland and paediatric dietitian, who attended the recent British Paediatric Neurology Association meeting in Glasgow. She presented a poster on 'A decade of Ketocollege'. This highlighted the ketogenic diet education for healthcare professionals developed by international, medical, and dietetic mentors over 10 years on behalf of the Matthew's Friends charity. The ketogenic diet is an alternative treatment for drug-resistant epilepsy and the gold standard treatment for GLUT1 deficiency syndrome.

Pause for thought How can you use your energy best in the coming days, and how will you nourish yourself to maintain that energy?

Tune of the day Here we go, another working week. Following his Super Bowl half-time show drenched in metaphorical sunshine, I am hoping [DtMF by Bad Bunny](#) does the same for us in the north-east (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