

Daily Brief...



Wednesday 25 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

Matters of concern or key risks to escalate	Major Actions Commissioned/ Work Underway
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Digital Front Door Launch: Anticipated increase in public contact following whole population availability, potential enquiries include data accuracy and freedom of information requests. Further information on national communications and routes to resolve issues are being sought.• Operational Pressures: Emergency services continue to face sustained demand. Whilst improvement work is beginning to bring benefits, achieving the required performance improvements by end of March will require whole-system support.• Business Continuity Plans: Completion of remaining plans are required by end of March.• Balanced Improvements: The need for integrated decision-making and clear communication to ensure work in Unscheduled and Planned Care does not negatively impact the other was recognised.• Transport Hub: Recent adverse weather events have highlighted the benefits of access to 4x4 vehicles via partner networks to support patient and staff movements. Further work is now	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organisational Priorities and Key Performance Indicators: Content of the 2026/27 priorities have been updated following recent rounds of engagement. Community engagement sessions are currently ongoing and will inform final changes prior to submission to the Board.• Unscheduled Care Improvement: Workshops to expedite integrated discharge planning and review acute bed use have taken place. Further sessions are scheduled looking at acute bed allocation and system integration.• Civil Contingencies: Learnings from recent work to support industrial action planning, adverse weather events and incidents have been captured and are being shared with relevant partners.• Business Continuity Plans: Strategic leads tasked with ensuring completion of plans by agreed deadline.• Internal Audit: Updated proposal containing options for 2026/27 continues to develop.

required to establish a transport hub and clarify funding arrangements.	
Positive Assurances to Provide	Decisions made
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement and Improvement: Staff remain engaged with improvement efforts, evidence by recent positive sessions and some reduction in delays and borders being observed across the system. Reduction in Delayed Discharges: Progress in patient flow and system efficiency to be reviewed at next Programme Board meeting. Civil Contingencies: Strong partnership working demonstrated during adverse weather, with over 500 patient and staff movements facilitated by 4x4 networks and voluntary teams. Governance and Audit: High degree of confidence expressed in recent audit reviews, with improvements noted in reporting and assurance processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarter 4 Trajectories: Revised Unscheduled Care trajectories agreed, aiming for a 5% improvement in four-hour access by end of March, with recognition of associated risks and need for evidence of deliverability. Business Continuity Plans: Completion date for outstanding plans set for end of March. Internal Audit: Updated internal audit plan to be taken forward to Audit and Risk Committee for approval. Transport Hub: Agreement to explore sustainable funding solutions to support continued/expanded use of 4x4 networks during future weather events.

Think measles! Measles cases continue to increase globally, and we have recorded our first case in Grampian in more than a decade. As such, it is important clinical colleagues know how to recognise the signs and symptoms and how to manage suspected and confirmed cases. A Measles Toolbox Talk, intended to support preparedness for, and management of, suspected or confirmed measles cases in healthcare settings is [available via this link](#). Immunisation against measles is strongly encouraged for healthcare workers. If you haven't been vaccinated, please contact OHS by calling Ext 53663 or by email gram.ohs@nhs.scot

Walk-in primary care services We have been awarded national funding to pilot walk-in primary care services in the region. This will be a test of change, with three sites; one in Aberdeen City (Health Village), with sites in Aberdeenshire and Moray to be confirmed. We hope the Aberdeen site will be ready to open by the end of May 2026.

As work progresses on this pilot project, we will share more information on how and when this service will operate. In the meantime, people should continue to make appointments at their practice during normal working hours and access out of hours care via NHS 24 at evenings and weekends.

Wider SLT meeting The wider system leadership team met on Monday 23 February; we would usually share a recording of this meeting but are unable to due to technical difficulties. However, we are pleased to share the presentation given, along with a set of slides on our organisational priorities for 2026/27. [We're asking all colleagues to take a look at these, via this link](#), and send any feedback to gram.communications@nhs.scot

Adult Weight Management referrals A new Adult Weight Management SGI-Gateway referral pathway is now live. Referrals to the service for patients who fulfil the Tier 2, Tier 3 and Tier 3 Type 2 Diabetes Remission eligibility criteria can be made through SCI-Gateway, where you will also find clinical referral and eligibility guidance and programme specific information. [More information is available on the intranet via this link](#).

Leading for the Future - cohort 16 Applications are now open for the 2026 cohort of this highly regarded national programme for senior leaders (Band 8a+ or equivalent) in health, social care, social work and third-sector partner organisations. With only 110 places across Scotland, competition is strong, and we are pleased to confirm 12 places are available to NHS Grampian colleagues this year! More information, [including links to online drop-in sessions and the application pack, can be found via this intranet link](#). The closing date for the applications is 24 April 2026. Queries and submitted application to be sent to agnieszka.stephen@nhs.scot.

Wellbeing, Culture, and Development Wednesday

- **Light is returning** Even if the days still feel heavy. Every shift you give makes a difference, and every moment of care matters. Be gentle with yourself - brighter days are on their way. Did you know, by the end of March, we will have gained over 4 hours of daylight since the start of February? If you are feeling the effect of the darker days, [follow this link for 5 tips for living with Seasonal Affective Disorder](#).
- **World Book Day 5 March** Reading is a deceptively simple habits that can have a surprisingly deep impact on your wellbeing. It works on several levels at once - mental, emotional, even physical. This year is also the National Year of Reading. Why not go all in by joining one of our Book Blether sessions? They are open to all health and social care staff. [There's more information on the next event at this link](#).

For more information or to raise any queries, please contact the team via gram.wcd@nhs.scot

Tune of the day George Harrison was born on this day in 1943, which is all the excuse I need to give you a midweek mellow moment with his masterpiece [While My Guitar Gently Weeps](#) (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