

Tuesday 6 February 2024

Chief Executive's update – finance Adam Coldwells [has recorded this short video](#) to bring you all up to date on board finances. As we've highlighted previously, the financial outlook is incredibly challenging. We aren't alone in this; all health boards in Scotland, along with health & social care partnerships, and many other parts of the public sector are in a similar position. As Adam mentions in the video, we will be hosting some briefing sessions in the coming weeks, with an open invitation for you to attend to find out more, and to understand what you need to do, both individually and in your teams/services. Keep an eye on the brief for more details on dates and times.

Cancer awareness Yesterday's announcement from Buckingham Palace highlights what many of us already knew; cancer does not discriminate. Information about the different types of cancer and their signs and symptoms, along with practical advice and support is available on the NHS Inform website here: [Cancer | NHS inform](#)

Winter vaccination programme – PHS want your views Public Health Scotland are working in collaboration with all boards to gather your feedback on the Winter 2023 vaccination programme via a short online national survey. They want to hear from **all** health & social care workers, including people who work in care homes, or care at home teams, working in Scotland. Whether or not you took up the offer of vaccination your views are vital. What was good about your experience? What needs to improve? This will inform the development of the winter programme, and all vaccination programmes. The survey is completely confidential: individual answers will not be shared with your employer, and neither your employer nor the research team will know who you are. The survey should take a maximum of 10 minutes to complete and is open until 5pm on 5 March.

[The survey is available to complete here](#); or by scanning the QR code below:



Important Notice: Out-of-Hours, Emergency Pharmacy Service Due to a high volume of calls and an increasing number of unnecessary calls, we want to clarify the purpose of the out-of-hours, emergency pharmacy service. The on-call pharmacist is available out of hours for clinically urgent pharmaceutical advice and pharmacy supplies which cannot wait until the next working day. The on-call pharmacist works remotely from home and provides this cover for all hospital services. You should only contact the on-call pharmacist with the following:

- Supply of **critical** medicines for inpatient use.
- **Urgent** medicines information or advice which cannot be answered using normal resources (e.g., Medusa, BNF etc).

The team have prepared trouble-shooting guides to assist clinical teams out of hours; these are available on the intranet here (networked devices only): [Pages - default \(scot.nhs.uk\)](#) Please consult these before calling the on-call pharmacist.

Note: Please refer clinical decisions to the parent medical team/senior. The on-call pharmacist is not the most appropriate decision maker in these circumstances and will unlikely be able to help. Thank you for your cooperation.

Foresterhill Mortuary – staff awareness sessions The first information session on the integrated mortuary project will take place on Teams tomorrow (Wednesday) at 4.15pm. This is your opportunity to find out more about this development, currently under construction at Foresterhill. A second session will take place on Wednesday 14 February at 12.30pm. Both sessions will last for 45 minutes; if you are interested in attending either, please email gram.mortuaryproject@nhs.scot to receive the joining information.

Commitment to Culture mini-classes These bitesize 30-minute sessions are open to anyone who wishes to explore one of the Commitment to Culture resources for teams. This week we are showcasing the '[Our Commitment to Culture](#)' wheel. There are two sessions this week, no booking required, just follow the links below:

[Wednesday 7 February, 12.30-1pm](#)

[Friday 9 February, 12.30-1pm](#)

Paediatric MTC education session The next event in this series will take place on Thursday (8 February) between 12-1pm. The topic this time is the role of AHPs in major trauma. To request the joining link, please email gram.nosmtc@nhs.scot

Leading an Empowered Organisation (LEO) programme Calling all nurses, midwives, AHPs, healthcare scientists and psychologists. There are still some spaces remaining for the March sessions of the LEO Programme - 'Leading an Empowered Organisation' - a leadership programme used worldwide. If you would be interested in taking part, please see attached flyer for further details. To book your space please contact gram.practiceeducation@nhs.scot If you are interested in sessions later in the year, please contact the Practice Education Team for further dates.

NHS Grampian BSL plan – consultation open The National BSL Plan aims to make Scotland the best place in the world for BSL signers to live, work, visit and learn. Our BSL Plan 2024-2030 will show actions on how to promote and facilitate the use and understanding of BSL in Scotland. These will also consider local circumstances and consider how best to respond to BSL user's needs within local communities and services. The consultation is open now, running until Monday 4 March. Full background information, the questionnaire, and details of in-person engagement events are available on the NHS Grampian website here: [Consultation for NHS Grampian BSL Plan 2024-2030](#)

Tune of the day Today's tune is a banger, and I don't say that lightly. Whether you've come to it via Saltburn or were on the dancefloor when this came out (me) please enjoy [Perfect \(Exceeder\)](#) by Mason vs Princess Superstar (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