

## NHS Grampian Annual Review November 2009

Public questions are worded exactly as submitted. Click the links below to read each response.  
Oral responses are available in the [Annual Review video](#).

### Question

### Answered by

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Since obesity is one of the greatest risks to health in Scotland, what is the NHS doing to help obese employees (such as nurses) to lose excess weight, and should not the First Minister be setting a good example by going on a diet himself?

[Cabinet Secretary Letter](#)

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Does the Government consider that there are inefficiencies in the NHS? If so, in which specific areas will savings be made in the next two (and next four) years?

[Cabinet Secretary Letter](#)

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With the probability of cuts in public spending, what actions are Grampian NHS taking to ensure and improve the excellent levels of service currently provided?

Oral response at review

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What is the present and future policy of NHS Grampian with regard to adults with learning disabilities who may also have a chronic condition such as epilepsy?

[Chairman Letter](#)

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Cardiac Rehabilitation has proved to be both highly beneficial to the patients and cost effective in the long term to the NHS. In the light of the Better Heart Disease and Stroke Care Action Plan where the expansion of this service to all those who need and want it is envisaged (paragraph 4.29) why has appropriate additional ring fenced funding not been made available? Grampian with its fully integrated NHS/Voluntary sector CR patient pathway is ideally suited to utilise extra funding to its best advantage to the patients who do not at this time receive this service.

Oral response at review

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Myself and many older people feel nowadays that they are not getting as good a service as before, and feel they are not even being listened to by their GPs. Is there a direct address to feed this back to NHS? Raising these questions and issues with NHS helplines, CAB and Age Concern seems to produce a lot of irrelevant paperwork. I can get sent 20-30 pages of A4 reading material which does not answer my question or solve the issue.

Oral response at review

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What specialist support exists, at consultant/lead clinician level in NHS Grampian to enable patients with Myalgic Encephalopathy (ME)/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) to receive diagnosis and treatment?

Oral response at review

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**Question****Answered by**

What is being done to improve the local hospitals so that more clinics and minor procedures can be delivered locally to help reduce the need for patients to travel for some distance to receive treatment at a major hospital?

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[Chairman Letter](#)

When current guidelines from the Royal College of Surgeons of England, the British Association of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons and the NHS show that the current plastic surgery and burns unit in Aberdeen is currently understaffed for the population of Grampian, how does Grampian Health Board justify downgrading the plastic surgery unit further and losing the burns unit as part of the Intermediate Care Project?

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[Chairman Letter](#)

Are there plans to transfer the existing paper based patient notes onto a digital form as the current system seems to be very inefficient and costly to run? Delays in patient treatment can often be delayed when notes get mislaid or are not updated in a timely manner

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[Chairman Letter](#)

Disabled access to hospital: too few disabled parking spaces, especially the Eye Clinic and all disability requirements are focused on wheelchair users. Disabled access should be considered from the "walking wounded" viewpoint and not just wheelchair access. I have great difficulty walking up wheelchair ramps and stairs.

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[Chairman Letter](#)

To what does the Minister attribute the success of dental services provision in the Glasgow area, and can the secrets of this success be shared with other regions, where there is need, in order to improve equity of access to dental services at national, as well as local level?

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[Cabinet Secretary Letter](#)

With reference to the above meeting I would like to ask why there is still no provision of patient transport for those of us in Tarland who have to attend clinics at Aboyne Hospital or Glen O'Dee, Banchory. This lack is compounded by the fact that our public transport service is practically non-existent. Thank you.

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[Cabinet Secretary Letter](#)

I understand from my friends who are long time very well qualified and experienced nurses on the 'Bank' list that they are no longer being called for work. The reason given is that when staff are required on a ward at ARI nurses are 'borrowed' from another ward, and it is an economy not to use 'Bank' nurses.

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[Chairman Letter](#)