

Monday 24 July 2023

Update from Linen Services The linen services team are continuing to work under contingency arrangements, with support from external laundries and other NHS boards. Adaptations to delivery schedules have been shared with service users, and there are no service issues at present. An environmental clean has started in the laundry and the service should be able to update further in the week. We do need your continuing support with the following:

- Change beds when necessary, ensuring this is within the 7-day window
- Towel be used appropriately e.g., use paper towels for spills, not fabric towels.
- Throws/blankets are for the use of patients only.

Some services have been returning clean linen through the dirty waste stream meaning it has to be rewashed. Please check if other areas can use this linen before returning. Clean scrubs are also coming through the system for laundering. There are plenty of scrubs and linen as required, we need to ensure we're not holding up the process by laundering clean linen.

Retail catering – price rises The Aroma outlets and the cafes we run across ARI, Woodend, DGH, and Royal Cornhill are as important to you as staff as they are to patients and visitors. They provide a space to relax, meet colleagues, and get something tasty to eat or drink. Retail catering is not subsidised in any way, and as a service it is expected to break even. This is becoming almost impossible due to the rising cost of raw ingredients, changes in working patterns, and changes in customer behaviour.

We cannot run at a loss, and we don't want to close outlets or reduce opening hours further. Therefore, the only option we are left with is price increases. Following discussion with Chief Executive Team and GAPF, and rather than implement an increase across the board, each item will be carefully assessed, and increases applied where necessary, to maintain our usual high standards and to ensure a range of options are still available at the lower costs. **Price increases will be applied from 1 August 2023**

We value your custom and hope you can continue to support retail catering in the future. Please be respectful to the retail staff regarding the price increases, remembering they are your NHS colleagues. We're always keen to hear your feedback, so if you're a regular café customer – or haven't been in a while – please get in touch via gram.cateringmanagement@nhs.scot

Donning & doffing refreshers The Infection Prevention & Control team offer regular refreshers on the correct way to don and doff PPE. Upcoming dates as follows, all sessions start at 11am and are delivered on Teams:

- July – Tuesday 25 (tomorrow – spaces still available)
- August – Wednesday 9

- September – Tuesday 12

You can book a place on any session by emailing gram.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.scot

Waste e-learning modules There are two e-learning modules, covering waste & recycling, available on Turas:

[Module 1: Non-hazardous waste](#) should be completed by all staff;

[Module 2: Hazardous Healthcare Waste](#) should be completed by any staff who either produce healthcare waste in their team, or whose role involves the handling or disposal of healthcare waste.

These modules should be completed every two years; please note you will not receive a reminder to refresh. For staff who produce healthcare waste, there is also an e-Toolbox talk: changes to healthcare waste segregation. This toolbox talk covers changes to segregation of both Cyto and non-Cyto medicinal sharps and pharma wastes. Evidence from regular waste audits suggests not everyone is aware of these changes, so please encourage all relevant staff to complete this Toolbox talk.

Grampian Hospitals Art Trust (GHAT) survey For almost 40 years, Grampian Hospitals Art Trust (GHAT) has provided arts within NHS Grampian hospitals improving the wellbeing of patients, staff, and visitors. GHAT maintains and manages the art on the walls of the hospitals, create exhibitions, and provides arts activities within wards. Their work supports patients to feel cared for, visitors to feel welcome, and staff to feel valued.

[This questionnaire will help GHAT improve art services](#) within our hospitals and associated Health & Social Care Partnership facilities. Feedback will show where they need to focus to sustain healing environments and patient activity as well as illustrate the need for their work which helps to bring in support from potential funders. Thank you in advance, from GHAT, for taking the time to share your views.

Pause for thought Reduce, Reuse and Recycle are all about minimising human impact on the planet. What, from your experience in work, could you recycle for a new purpose? What might that save you from in the longer term?

Tune of the day Mairi Bayliss, part of the acute Speech & Language Therapy team, is getting married soon; her friend and colleague Rachel Allanach has requested what else, but [Mairi's Wedding](#) as our tune of the day. Lots of versions to choose from, the one I've gone for is by The High Kings

It's a two for one Monday special, as Tracey McLuckie (Domestic Supervisor, Seafield) has been in touch. Wilma Watt AKA Mother of Seafield had her birthday yesterday; Tracey and the team say she doesn't realise how special she is and have asked for [Isn't She Lovely](#) by Stevie Wonder (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