

Tuesday 30 May 2023

Pay offer for junior doctors – consultative vote BMA Scotland have confirmed today their consultative vote on the current pay offer for junior doctors will begin on Monday 5 June. It will run for one week, closing at 11.59pm on Monday 12 June. The vote will be carried out electronically and BMA Scotland members will receive direct communication about this.

Smarter Working update As you will be aware, we are in discussions with Aberdeenshire Council regarding use of office accommodation in Woodhill House for a number of corporate and administrative teams based across Aberdeen. These negotiations are ongoing, and we hope to conclude them by late summer/early autumn. More detailed information has been shared with those teams directly involved in any such move.

However, the Smarter Working programme is about more than possible relocation; it is also about making it easier for all of us to work effectively, whether at home, in an office location, or both. Following a pilot period (which ended last November) our Early Adopter teams have continued to use a desk booking system and information from both their feedback and the system itself, is helping to inform decisions about how Woodhill House could be best used. So far, colleagues have reported the system is easy to use and allows desk booking to support face-to-face collaboration when you know colleague(s) from both your own and other teams are in the office.

Whilst Woodhill House gives us a focus for Aberdeen admin/management staff approach to Smarter Working, the Smarter Working principles are now widely used throughout Grampian and the team are more than willing to support any staff group seeking advice and guidance on its adoption. As an organisation, we are committed to making hybrid working a realistic option for as many of you as possible. There will be occasions when 'business need' means we need to be in the office, and this will vary according to the team you are in. However, we would again underline that, as an organisation, NHS Grampian is supportive of hybrid working and we do not expect colleagues to be in the office simply for the sake of presenteeism.

If you have questions or are looking for some advice, please email gram.smarterworking@nhs.scot.

Upcoming board meeting The Grampian NHS board meets in open session every other month; the next meeting takes place this Thursday at 10am. [You can read all the papers for the meeting here.](#)

Newly qualified practitioners and facilitators Dates and details of AHP focused Flying Start sessions for either NQPs (undertaking or in the process of completing Flying Start) or Facilitators (new or existing) [are now available on the AHP Practice Education Intranet pages](#). For any queries, please email gram.ahpflyingstart@nhs.scot

Think COULD Earlier this month, we shared information about the launch of Think COULD, a short, animated feature designed to support people with a Learning Disability when interacting with the justice system. [We're pleased to say the video is now available to view – and share – here.](#)

Think COULD was developed by a cohort of eight Learning Disability Queen's Nurses, including our own Kerry Anderson, in partnership with QNIS and thanks to funding from The Burdett Trust for Nursing.

Cycle2Work salary sacrifice scheme A refreshed Cycle2Work salary sacrifice scheme launches this Thursday (1 June). Under the scheme, an NHS Grampian employee can apply for anything between £100 and the new, increased, limit of £20,000 to spend on a bicycle, e-bike, or e-cargo bike and accessories of your choice. You now have the option to pay this back over 12, 18, or 24 months. To find out more about the Cycle2Work scheme a virtual roadshow is being held next Monday (5 June) between 12 – 12.30pm; [you can sign up here](#). There will be lots more information to come via this brief and the Cycle2Work intranet pages.

Tune of the day The word 'legend' gets bandied about a fair bit, but it is safe to say our tune today goes out to a cast iron legend. Mike Adams, full time partnership rep, is retiring (he might have mentioned it once or twice in meetings...) so from all your colleagues in Staffside – indeed, from all of us – here is [Born to be Wild](#) by Steppenwolf (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