

Wednesday 6 December 2023

In conversation... Chief Executive Caroline Hiscox talks to incoming interim Chief Executive Adam Coldwells in this special episode of "In Conversation..." In the video, Adam outlines his immediate priorities for NHS Grampian and the health & social care system in our area as he prepares to take up his new role from next week. Caroline also shares wisdom and learning from her time at the helm with Adam, including the importance of listening and making connections with staff from all areas of the organisation. You can watch the video here: [\(11\) Caroline Hiscox In Conversation With Adam Coldwells - YouTube](#)

Bed Base Review project update The first tranche of additional beds in Aberdeen Royal Infirmary's Orange zone are scheduled to open on Monday 11 December though given current pressures, and subject to safe staffing levels, they are aiming to open on Friday. Paul Bachoo, Executive Lead for the project, [has recorded this short video](#). We will also hear from staff involved in the project in tomorrow's brief. Some key dates to be aware of:

Monday 11 December:

- Ward 303 opens 18 new beds to respiratory patients, some of whom will have moved from wards 402/403
- Frailty will take on the vacated beds in 402/403 subject to safe staffing levels

Between mid-Dec to End of January

- Frailty will move from 402/403 to their permanent location of ward 304 occupying 14 beds
- Exact timing dependent on ongoing recruitment, safe staffing levels and system pressures

Service update – domestic & support services Like many departments, we have been impacted with a high level of staff absence and increased demand on service provision. At present, we are prioritising high-risk clinical areas, which means low-risk, non-clinical areas may not receive the usual frequency of cleaning. Please be assured the domestic team works as a collective group to prioritise areas and reallocate staff. As a team we appreciate your support and understanding. You can help us focus on the task at hand, by refraining from multiple queries to the supervisors on lack of domestic staff in areas. Regrettably, if you are work in a non-clinical area your domestic service will be very limited at present.

Data security – keep your devices secure Your phone/laptop/computer pin codes and passwords are the keys to your devices and all the data and systems they have access to. Never leave pin codes or passwords stuck to or with (e.g., in the same bag as) your computers, laptops, phones or other data devices. If the device is stolen or your office is broken into, all the device's security is bypassed because the criminal has the codes and passwords. It's like locking your front door, then taping the key and the alarm code to the outside where anyone can see them and let themselves in.

Reminder – funding to support staff wellbeing Grampian Area Partnership Forum (GAPF) are inviting applications for funding to combat fatigue and support rest and recovery. These can be made for anything from a new kettle for hot drinks to a reclining chair for break rooms. A full set of guidance notes, along with the application form, [is available on the intranet here](#) (networked devices only), and applications should be received no later than **13 December**.

ChemoCare Upgrade We are in the process of upgrading to ChemoCare version 6.07e. This work is part of the North of Scotland (NoS) Chemotherapy Electronic Prescribing and Administration System (CEPAS) Upgrade Programme. It is anticipated that the new system will go live in early 2024. In the lead up to the go live date all ChemoCare users will be asked to:

- Complete mandatory TURAS modules tailored to board specific work activity.
- Attend a training session delivered by the supplier OR a short cascade training session delivered by a colleague.

An invite to complete training will be sent directly to you or arranged via your line manager. A training user list will be taken from existing users of the current system. To ensure you don't miss out on your training invite do check that your login details are valid and working. If you require login details for ChemoCare please speak to your line manager. For further queries please email Louise Bennett at louise.bennett@nhs.scot or Alex Greger at alexander.greger@nhs.scot

Research & Development (R&D) survey We are formulating our new R&D strategy for 2024-29. We all want better outcomes in health, and optimising our clinical research capacity to translate this capability is important for all, ourselves, our families and our communities. We are keen to listen to your opinion on how we make this happen and look forward to your constructive feedback and suggestions. [You can take part in the survey by clicking this link](#); it is open until 31 January 2024.

Culture Matters roadshow The next event in this series will take place at ARI (main concourse) next Wednesday (13 December) between 1-4pm. The roadshows are designed to enhance awareness across NHSG and the HSCPs, fostering the development of values-based cultures that are supportive, inclusive and empowering. All welcome! If you have any questions about the roadshows please email gram.culturematters@nhs.scot

We Care Wellbeing Wednesday

- **Guided Journaling** Journaling is recognised as being helpful in reducing anxiety, and can help us become more flexible and accepting in our thinking. The 30-minute journaling sessions provide us with an opportunity to pause and reflect, and the facilitator will guide you through the journaling process with each session having a wellbeing focus. No prior journaling experience is necessary – all you need is something to write with and some paper. To book a space via TURAS, click [here](#), and if you have any questions or want to find out more contact fiona.soutar@nhs.scot
- **Spaces for Listening** Spaces for listening is a simple and lightly structured process which creates a space for colleagues to come together and share their thoughts and feelings at this time of uncertainty and challenge. It is confidential, there is no hierarchy, we all participate as people. There are 2 upcoming December sessions: 13 December, 1.30-2.30pm (contact fiona.sharples@nhs.scot to book) and 20 December, 3.30-4.30pm (contact agnieszka.stephen@nhs.scot to book).

Tune of the day Wilma Gerrie, service manager, lead physiologist, and biggest Strictly fan in the Department of Clinical Neurophysiology reluctantly hung up her electrodes, kicked off her crocs, laundered her uniform for the last time after 43 years' service in the NHS. I know I speak for all her colleagues when they say Wilma will be very much missed. As Wilma says "goodbye tension, hello pension" and cha-cha-chaaaas her way to her new-found free time, [Bongo Cha Cha Cha](#) by Caterina Valente is our tune of the day (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