

Here is the brief for Monday 13 September 2021.

COVID-19 vaccination – 12-15 year olds The four UK Chief Medical Officers have jointly recommended all children aged 12-15 should be offered a first dose of COVID-19 vaccine, specifically the Pfizer vaccine. In a letter to the four nation health ministers, the CMOs say the likely benefits of reducing educational disruption – and the consequent public health harm which could come from educational disruption – provide sufficient additional advantage to recommend vaccination in this age group. [You can read the full text of the CMOs letter on the UK Government website](#). A government briefing on the next steps is taking place this afternoon and we will have more on this in tomorrow's brief.

Asymptomatic Lateral Flow Device Testing Firstly, thank you to everyone for continuing with the twice-weekly LFD testing programme and especially for also logging your results. We are delighted to say that we have seen an increase in staff recording results - this is important because it helps us know what is going on with the virus in the community. To make taking part as easy as possible for you, here are answers to some of the most frequently asked questions and some reminders:

I've got a positive result on my LFD test. What do I do?

- Self-isolate and book a confirmatory PCR test immediately – [remember to use the staff testing service request form](#).
- If you're confirmed to have COVID-19 you must complete 10 days of self-isolation (without exception).
- If your PCR test is negative, you may return to work.

I've been notified that I am a close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case. What do I do?

- Go home and book a PCR test immediately – do NOT use an LFD test as a substitute for a PCR test.
- If your PCR test is negative, you may end self-isolation. Your return to work is subject to certain conditions – for more information on these [see the brief from 31 August](#).

If you, as a member of health & social care staff, have ANY of the following (even mild) symptoms, you must book a PCR test and isolate while awaiting results:

- Fever (a temperature greater than 37.8°C), chills, dry or productive cough, sore throat, headache, runny nose, shortness of breath, general weakness, muscle pain, diarrhoea, or loss of taste/smell. LFD should not be used as a substitute for a PCR for symptomatic staff.

LFD results must be recorded on the NHS staff testing portal, or it will not contribute to the overall data.

LFD testing is different for healthcare staff. We are asked to take two nasal swabs, rather than a nasal swab and a throat swab. If members of your household are also using LFD tests, they should follow the guidelines provide with those kits. As the virus continues to spread, please remember that vaccination and testing are our best defence when it comes to protecting each other. [If you haven't already signed up to the lateral flow testing programme, please click on this link and select the relevant staff link to request your kit](#). Thank you once again for continuing to support this programme.

Grampian data The local update for today (and across the weekend) is shown below. A national update is available on the [Public Health Scotland daily dashboard](#). Please note the data is incomplete due to the unavailability of national testing data. We apologise for any inconvenience.

	Daily number of new people tested	New cases in past 24 hrs	Daily no. of contacts isolated in past 24 hrs	Patients in hospital	Patients in ITU	Deaths in hospital
Sat 11/09	*	357	412	51	9	2 <small>10/9 & 11/9</small>
Sun 12/09	*	429	234	52	12	1 <small>Last recorded death 11/09/21</small>
Mon 13/09	*	371	214 <small>Down 20 from 11/09/21</small>	52 <small>No change from 12/9/21</small>	10 <small>Down 2 from 12/9/21</small>	0 <small>Last recorded death 12/09/21</small>

*National data issue affecting local data

Reported by Scottish Govt up to 8am today

Reported from CMS up to midnight

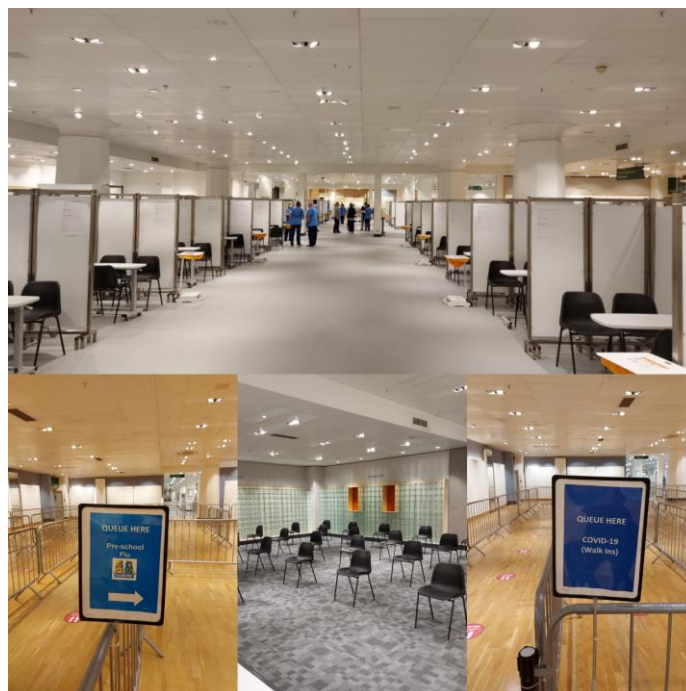
Confirmed patients from Trakcare according to new definitions from 15/9

Confirmed from Trakcare as per SG definitions - excludes patients who were +ve >28 days. ECMO patients included if flagged for COVID-19

Confirmed from Trakcare

7 day rolling positivity rate on 07/9
10.11%

Aberdeen City Vaccination Centre Today saw the opening of the Aberdeen City Vaccination Centre (ACVC) in the former John Lewis premises. As well as continuing to provide COVID-19 vaccination, the centre will also see the delivery of 'flu jabs and a number of other immunisations. This is part of the national transfer of scheduled immunisations away from primary care and into health board/health & social care partnership delivery. Well done to all the team, including CHAP, who worked so hard to get the venue ready for opening. Drop-in vaccination is available at the ACVC between 10.30am and 4.30pm, 7 days a week. The Fiona Elcock Vaccination Centre in Elgin, and the centres in Huntly, Inverurie, Banchory, Stonehaven, Peterhead, Fraserburgh, and Macduff continue to operate as usual.



eESS project update The implementation of eESS is now well underway. eESS is a national workforce system that has been rolled out in all NHS Scotland Boards and will be implemented in NHS Grampian with Manager Self Service Go Live on 4 October 2021. Manager Self Service Training has commenced, and to be completed by 3 October 2021. It is important that you read the content of the newsletter (attached to the email used to send out this brief) for training dates and other important information. The newsletter is also available [via the eESS intranet page](#) (networked devices only)

Smarter Workplace survey A big thank-you to everyone who participated in the Smarter Workplace survey – a total of 892 responses were received. The team are now working through all the information provided and will share the key findings as soon as they can.

Servicing and maintenance of weighing scales – action required Marsdens are carrying out the annual servicing of weighing scales (maintenance, calibration, and the supply of scales and height measures) across NHS Grampian throughout September and October. It is important that you refer to [the schedule for a date of when the servicing will commence at your location](#) (Intranet link, networked devices only). Should you have any questions or queries, or any special instructions for Marsdens, please do not hesitate to contact Callum Sinclair, Business Support Manager at callum.sinclair1@nhs.scot

Climate Week This week is Climate Week! This annual event raises awareness of the global climate emergency, and highlights actions being taken to tackle climate change. Keep an eye on the NHS Grampian social media accounts throughout the week, we'll be highlighting what the organisation is doing to meet this global challenge.

Scotland's Climate Week marks the six weeks to go until the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26). This is the world's biggest international summit on climate change and will be held from 31st October to 12th November 2021. COP26 will bring together heads of state, climate experts and negotiators to agree coordinated action to tackle the global climate emergency. To find out more about COP26 please have a look at the [COP26 Awareness Module](#).

Registration is also open for NHSScotland's Sustainability Conference, scheduled to take place on 10 November 2021, to coincide with COP26. Innovation cafés will feature sustainability and climate change initiatives in policy and practice across NHSScotland including public health, primary care, clinical, property and estates and facilities. This virtual event is free to attend, [please register here](#).

Your Space



We got some cracking suggestions in for Friday's caption competition – our favourite came from Amanda Gotch:

"No honestly...this HUGE scurrie jus' dive-bombed mi and made aff wi' ma icecream!!"

As for the pudding vs dessert debate (and yes, we know some of you use both, depending on where you are) the results are in – pudding is the clear winner, with 149 votes, to dessert's 61 votes.

It looks like Your Space is a hit, so it will be back on Friday.

Tune of the day Morag Lyall is keeping it mellow for Monday with her suggestion of [May You Never by John Martyn](#). If you've never heard this song before (or you've heard it a hundred times) please take 3 minutes and 40 seconds to listen and be soothed.

We're always on the look-out for your suggestions of a great song to end the day (or start it, depending on when you read this brief) so just drop us a line via gram.communications@nhs.scot That's also your first port of call if you've got any queries or an item to share.