

Friday 13 January 2023

Staff Equalities Network - Becoming an Antiracist Health Board...if not now, then when? To start the year on the right foot, the NHS Grampian Staff Equalities Network is delighted to invite colleagues to join us for an opportunity to reflect on what we have learned and the work we have done to progress the anti-racism and anti-discrimination agenda in our organisation during 2021-22.

At our next meeting, taking place on Wednesday 18 January, 2 – 3 pm on MS Teams, we will be delighted to welcome our colleague Maria Jose Pavez, Project Coordinator and Policy Officer from our partner organisation Grampian Regional Equality Council (GREC). They will guide us through a discussion exploring the ways in which institutional and systemic racism, and discrimination, exists within the workplace. We will also present some of the ambitions we have identified through the Staff Equalities Network to enable us to take our collective first steps towards becoming an Antiracist Health Board.

It would be fantastic if you have the time to read over the discussion paper at the link below in advance of the meeting [Grampian Regional Equality Council \(GREC\) - Institutional and Systemic Discrimination, Discussion Paper](#) If you would like further information or would like the link to join, please contact gram.staffequalities@nhs.scot

The Staff Equalities Network is **your** network - Everyone is welcome!

Early Years communication skills Thanks to members of the Aberdeen City Speech & Language Therapy team, who made the time to speak to STV News earlier this week. Tonight's programme at 6pm will include a report on the impact of pandemic lockdowns on young children's communication skills. If you want to find out more about the team, [you can visit their website here](#). The team also offer a twice weekly advice line, for general support or to ask questions about children and their communication skills. It runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays, between 1.30-4pm, on 01224 554 888

That was the week that was We know it goes, you're sure you spotted something in the brief but aren't sure when. Here's a quick run through of the key items shared this week:

Monday 9 – staff vaccination clinic at RACH (taking place on 18 January), Boarder Management Team test of change, launch of new IT self-service portal

Tuesday 10 – update on current health & social care pressures, ethics advice & support group

Wednesday 11 – paediatric physiotherapy advice line, new dialysis transport service for Dr Gray's

Thursday 12 – cost of living crisis research, update from domestic service

All briefs are available in the [Working With Us > HR Portal section](#) of the NHS Grampian website.

STAR Award A very warm 'well done' to Jackie Makay, pharmacy technician at Dr Gray's and most recent STAR Award recipient. Why not nominate a colleague or team for a STAR Award? [You can either complete the online form](#) or email the details to gram.staffthanksandrecognition@nhs.scot

Tune of the day 7 days ago I shared an Elvis tune, to mark the upcoming anniversary of his birth, today we mark the death of another member of the Presley family – his daughter, Lisa-Marie. More than just The King's daughter, she was an accomplished singer in her own right, releasing three albums. Her debut single [Lights Out](#) is our tune of the day.

Well, we've made it to the end of another working week. Whether this was your first full week back, or you're already an old hand at this 2023 business, I hope you get some time just for you over the weekend. The brief will return on Monday, when we will no doubt be wading through media stories claiming it is Blue Monday, the most depressing day of the year. Remember, no such thing exists, it was all made up to sell holidays. Why not follow [the Samaritans' example and have a Brew Monday](#) instead? (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