

Here is the brief for Thursday 17 March 2022.

Update from the Chief Executive

Video: [“In the rest of the world life may be getting back to normal but in health and social care it’s the busiest it’s been...”](#)

As some of you will know, Chief Executive Caroline Hiscox visits sites across Grampian most weeks to hear directly from colleagues about their experiences and the challenges they are facing.

This week, Caroline & NHSG Interim Chair John Tomlinson were at Royal Cornhill, Caroline also visited Emergency Department and A&A at ARI, and next week she will be at Laurencekirk Practice & Dr Gray’s with Cabinet Secretary For Health.

Directly after her visit to Cornhill yesterday, (in fact in the car park), Caroline recorded a short message to reflect on the points people raised with her and John. She also took the opportunity to extend her appreciation for the “inspirational and humbling” work being done and acknowledged the huge pressures being felt by teams across health and social care in Grampian, in the last few days especially.

View the video here: <https://youtu.be/YpZ65nEcgx0>

Coming Up: Thank you once again to everyone who has submitted a question for the next “Ask Caroline” Staff Q&A. We hope to film another session in the next week or so and to publish it in the brief shortly afterwards.

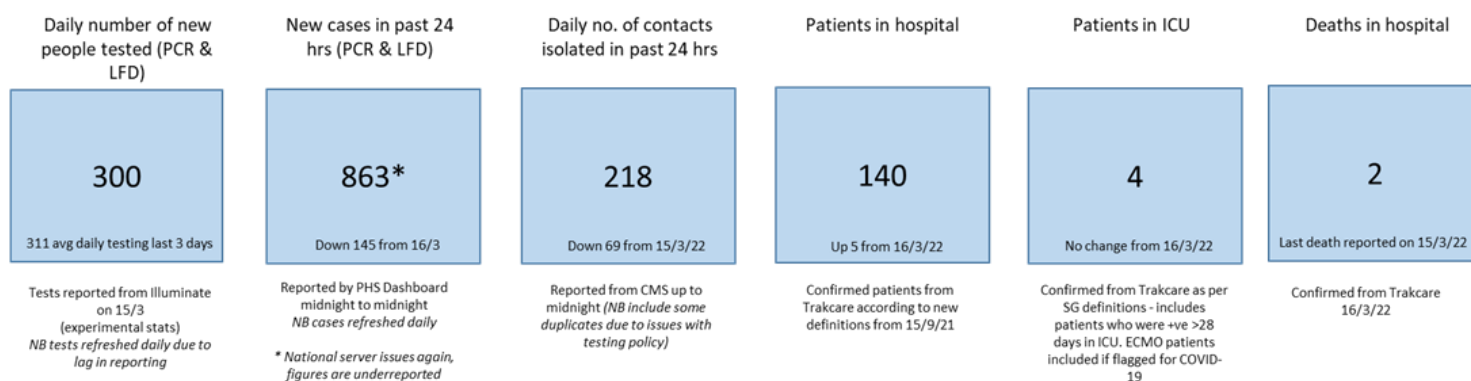
Next week we will also bring you a further instalment in the “In Conversation” colleague spotlight series, this time around featuring Caroline and Denise Johnson, deputy lead nurse with Aberdeen HSCP

Discharge Lounge Ward staff are reminded to use the Discharge Lounge when a patient is fit to leave hospital in order to maximise the availability of acute beds for new admissions

The facility in the Yellow Zone provides a comfortable environment, with nurse supervision, while patients await transport away from hospital. Patients will be offered refreshments and light lunches will at the lounge. Staff will even take patients to the ambulance bay when their lift arrives.

To contact the lounge phone 01224 555780

Grampian data The local report is shown below. [The Public Health Scotland daily dashboard can be viewed here.](#)



Reminder - Management referrals to Occupational Health Service (OHS) Emailed Manager Referral Forms to gram.ohs@nhs.scot are **no longer be accepted**. All new Management Referrals must be submitted using the new [OHS Management Referral Portal](#) (networked devices only). Managers must visit this site whenever they wish to refer an employee to Occupational Health. On this site, managers will find the [Employee Information Sheet](#) which should be provided to the staff member being referred. [There is also an easy-to-follow Manager's Guide](#) which will assist managers in submitting a referral using the new OHS portal. The main benefits for managers in using the new OHS portal include:

- triaging of clients to most the appropriate supports,
- clearer layout of the referral form to assist managers in formulating the questions they would like answered,
- less documents sent via email reducing the risk of data breaches,
- secure and accessible storage of submitted management referrals reducing reliance on paper records,
- and the referred staff member will also receive a copy.

[Please note the process for self-referrals by staff directly has not changed - visit the OHS intranet page for more information.](#)

Vending Machines Chilled vending machines are now providing meals and soups 24hrs across some of our Aberdeen sites.

The machines are located at Aberdeen Maternity Hospital's staff rest area, the Emergency Care Centre's main seating area, Royal Cornhill Hospital's staff rest area and in Woodend at the staff social space in the general block. A similar machine will be up and running at Dr Gray's in the coming weeks.

There is also a vegan/vegetarian snack machine in place at ARI in the Yellow Zone, Level 1, close to the lifts.

Tune of the day Angela Taylor got in touch to tell us: "I have a half day today and walking to my car I am going to be singing "[Walking on Sunshine](#)" by Katrina & The Waves. A blast from my past and such a feel-good song for a sunny day." So in honour of Angela's dulce car-bound tones we shall make it our song for today.

If you want to request a song for tune of the day, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via gram.communications@nhs.scot