

Thursday 16 June 2022

Update from the Chief Exec We don't have a formal 'Ask Caroline' or 'In conversation' video to share this week; instead, [Caroline Hiscox has recorded this short update](#). In it she discusses the meetings she has had with other board Chief Executives in Edinburgh this week, as well as the new pay offer for NHS Agenda for Change staff. Caroline has also been following up on questions from previous Q&A videos, including on car parking at Foresterhill, changing facilities at ARI, and uniform for reception staff. We are sorry we can't provide a transcript or audio-only version on this occasion.

iMatter team confirmation Thank you to all the managers who have confirmed their teams on the iMatter system in advance of the iMatter questionnaire. If you have not already confirmed your team please do not delay, as the questionnaire cannot be released until ALL teams are confirmed; you have until 4pm on Friday 24 June to confirm your team details on the iMatter system. All managers across NHS Grampian and Aberdeenshire, Aberdeen City, and Moray HSCPs should have received an email with a link to check and/or amend their team. iMatter was created in partnership with NHS Scotland staff as an opportunity for all NHS and Health and Social Care staff to share their experiences at work year on year. It supports teams and the organisation to reflect and work together to improve the experiences of all as individuals, part of a team and within the organisation. More information can be found on our intranet page. If you need any help with the system or support confirming your team, please email gram.imatter@nhs.scot.

Smarter Working update The Smarter Working team can confirm a desk booking system has now been purchased. This will be trialled by those departments working as 'early adopters' of hybrid working. A decision will then be taken on whether or not to roll it out more widely. If your team isn't one of the 'early adopters', you should still be thinking about what hybrid working could look like for you. Questions you should consider include: What are the business/service needs of your team? Where/when can work be carried out? For example, there may be a need for emails to be monitored between 8.30am-5pm Monday-Friday, or the work being carried out can be more flexible to fit a different work pattern. If you have any queries about hybrid working, please contact gram.smarterworking@nhs.scot.

Scottish COVID-19 inquiry – introductory academic research The Scottish COVID-19 inquiry has published initial research papers, looking at various aspects of the COVID-19 response. The [papers are available to read in full here](#), if interested.

Local counter terrorism work recognised Prof Susan Carr, Director of Allied Health Professions & Public Protection, has had her work in counter terrorism recognised with a commendation award. Prof Carr chairs the NHS Grampian *PREVENT* Group and a broader north-east multi-agency group. The overall aim of *PREVENT* is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. The Public Protection intranet pages provides *PREVENT* (risk of radicalisation) Guidance for Staff and information on: Who is at risk; How to recognise; Addressing any immediate safety issues; Legal duties and responsibilities; Who to report to and how; Information Sharing etc. Congratulations to Susan, who was the only person from Scotland to be honoured at the national Prevent Awards.

External consultations The Public Involvement team support participation in a number of consultations relating to the provision of health & social care. Details on the current consultations and how to have your say [are available on the NHS Grampian website](#).

North East Learning Collaborative – mentee opportunity We are a member – along with a number of public sector bodies locally – of the North East Learning Collaborative (NELC). There is an opportunity for NHS staff to access mentoring support. Mentoring gives you the opportunity for constructive reflection with someone who will be open, honest, and impartial. If you think could benefit from a mentor, [further information on the programme and an application form is available here](#). (Intranet link, networked devices only)

Security Tagging Events for NHS Grampian staff

- 21 June at ARI
- 23 June Cornhill – AM; Woodend – PM

Come along to one of our bike events next week. Police Scotland will be there, offering free bike security tagging and advice on keeping your bike safe. We'll also have some cycling freebies to giveaway! Please contact us at gram.activetravel@nhs.scot to book a 15-minute slot. Drop-ins are also welcome so if you don't manage to secure an appointment or if you don't have a bike yet, come along on the day to say hi, have a chat about cycling and pick up some freebies! There will also be a “Dr Bike” mechanic there from Adventure Aberdeen. Whilst appointments for the bike doctor are already fully booked, please contact us if you'd like to be on the reserve list or drop by anyway on the day and the Bike Dr will check over your bike if time allows! Full details are available here: [My Healthy Workplace](#)

Tune of the day A big thank you to Bill Ross (eHealth) for suggesting today's tune – he's gone for an absolute belter in the form of [Out on the Floor by Dobie Gray](#). It's a Northern Soul classic, but please, no talcum powder on the dancefloor (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