

Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive (6 April 2020, 5.55pm)

The very sad news of the death of a home care worker in West Dunbartonshire is a sombre reminder, if one were needed, of the devastating personal impact of this disease. My thoughts are with her family and colleagues at this time.

As time goes on, we will all know someone who is affected by COVID-19. This will touch us personally and professionally and I can't stress enough the importance of looking after yourselves and one another in the weeks ahead. I hope you all took the time to read in the Core Brief about the wide range of support that has now been introduced in response to the COVID-19 situation. This includes a new dedicated support line, one-to-one psychological support, pastoral care, online Mindfulness sessions and counselling. Relaxation and recuperation hubs have also been introduced in a number of our hospitals and following feedback from colleagues at New Stobhill and Victoria Hospitals, we are also looking at opening up here too.

I am grateful to our team of psychologists, health improvement practitioners, our spiritual care chaplains, HR colleagues and the Glasgow Psychological Trauma Service for setting up these services to help fellow colleagues.

I was pleased too to hear about other offers of support for those in the frontline, including our Dermatology service which has launched an advice and care service for clinical staff to help treat and protect their skin.

It's clear that there's a real team ethos within NHSGGC with those on the frontline treating the growing numbers of COVID-19 patients being well supported by other colleagues who are keen to play their part. I am grateful to you all.

Thank you.