

Core Brief



Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive (1 September 2023, 4.50pm)

This morning, I attended our annual Apprenticeship Graduation and Awards. It was a great opportunity for me to meet with some of our hugely talented apprentices, who are making such a difference across NHSGGC. Our Apprentice Programme is one of the important ways in which we can grow our future talent pipeline through a very sought-after training programme, which helps us to grow and retain important skills. This year, 12 apprentices have completed their apprenticeship and graduated from the scheme and there are a further 66 currently in training across our services, with another 31 people joining us as first year apprentices in the coming months.



I am very pleased to announce that the winner of the UNISON and UNITE the Union Modern Apprentice of the Year was awarded to Teri Baker, who is a Pre-Registration Pharmacy Technician with West Dunbartonshire HSCP. Our second winner was Mohannad Dawod, a Pre-Registration Pharmacy Technician at Adelphi

Centre Pharmacy Hub, who won the award for Year One Apprentice of the Year 2023.

The winner of the Wully Brodie Estates Apprentice of Year was Scott Robb, who this year completed his Engineer Apprenticeship at Inverclyde Royal Hospital, and who was also last year's Modern Apprentice of the Year.

Our final awards were for Assessor/Trainer of the Year 2023, which was presented to Nadia Benchiheub from Pharmacy Services and Mentor of the Year 2023 which was awarded to Carmel McGeown from the Estates team. My congratulations to all of our very deserving winners and finalists.

This week, I was pleased to see the launch of our new [Success Register](#), which is a new way for staff to share and celebrate your successes, and is a future opportunity to share and learn from good practice, while also offering the opportunity to say thank you and give recognition to our colleagues across NHS GGC. This is a really important way in which we can showcase some of the fantastic work being undertaken by teams and individuals and I am looking forward to seeing more and more staff engage with this new platform as well as find out more about the great work you are delivering. I would like to encourage staff to use the new Success Register to share your stories and recognise your colleagues.

Following some important work by the Interventional Cancer Pain team at the Beatson West of Scotland Cancer Centre, it has been found that the use of intrathecal drug delivery (ITDD) has helped patients to be able to spend more time being cared for in their local communities. I would like to thank Dr Alison Mitchell, who led the work, which has since been published in the journal Palliative Medicine and confirms the benefits for patients who have significant pain across a variety of cancers. This type of treatment is delivered through a catheter, which is implanted in the lumbar area of the spine and allows anaesthetic and painkilling medication to be delivered via a pump which sits just below the ribcage. By using the device, patients are on a lower dose of opioid painkillers, which reduces cognitive impairment. In addition, once implanted, patients need only return every two weeks to have the medication reservoir refilled. The team has done a great job in highlighting this as a viable option for people living with cancer, which will hopefully be able to benefit many more patients in the future.

Over the past couple of weeks, it has been great to see the number of families sharing photos of their children starting school for the first time, something which is especially significant for the parents of our former patients at our Neonatal Unit at the Royal Hospital for Children. Caring for the smallest and sickest of babies born in NHS GGC is often a challenge and I am grateful to our teams who provide such great care to some of our most vulnerable patients. If you would like to read some of the children's stories, you can find out more on our [website](#).

This week, our patient feedback is about the team at the West of Scotland Breast Screening Service. Our patient writes; "I attended a breast screening appointment at NHSGGC's breast screening unit in Glasgow city centre. I would like to express my gratitude for the care and attention I received during my visit. The receptionist was very welcoming and this helped to make me feel better about attending my appointment.

Andrea the radiographer was very informative and very caring, explained step by step exactly what I needed to do and when. Also, during the consultation, she listened to my questions and was able to remove all the anxiousness about attending the appointment. I would like to thank Andrea and receptionist for making me feel supported throughout the experience of attending breast screening. They are a credit to the NHS."

This is great feedback about the team at the Breast Screening Service and I would like to thank you for the kindness and compassion you showed this patient.

**It is important to share Core Brief with colleagues who do not have access to a computer.
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