

# Core brief

**Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive  
(15 March 2024, 2.25pm)**



This week marked Healthcare Science Week, which promotes and celebrates the important role of healthcare science professionals. As part of that we were delighted to host Minister for Public Health, Jenni Minto, MSP, at the QEUH campus where she was able to visit a number of areas staffed by healthcare scientists to hear about the significant contribution they make to delivering patient care across NHSGGC. In addition to seeing a cutting-edge gamma-ray scanner at the RHC alongside visiting the Maxillofacial Laboratory, the Minister was able to speak to the team at the Department of Microbiology to hear about the WASPLab – a fully automated specimen processing and digital imaging system, and the new Virtou blood culture systems - both of which make a major contribution to patient care and clinical decision making. Ms Minto was joined by our Nurse Director, Professor Angela Wallace, NHSGGC Vice-Chair, Ian Ritchie, and Chief Scientific Officer for Scotland, Professor Catherine Ross. My thanks to everyone involved in the visit, and in particular Healthcare Science Professional Lead for NHSGGC, Karen Brazier. I'd also like to extend my gratitude to all our healthcare science colleagues for the significant - but often behind the scenes - impact you have on the delivery of care across our Health Board.

It was also fantastic to be able to spotlight World Kidney Day this week and showcase the amazing work NHSGGC transplant teams do by telling the story of one of our own staff members, Louise Cooper. Louise, who works at the RAH, had become seriously ill from kidney disease but was given a second chance at life thanks to her dad who was able to give her one of his kidneys through a living donation. After receiving the transplant at the QEUH, Louise is now well on the way to recovery. Louise's story helps raise awareness of living donation at a crucial period as we know there are around 400 people in Scotland waiting for a kidney transplant at any one time. A kidney from a living donor generally offers the best outcomes for patients living with kidney failure who need a transplant. A healthy person can live a completely normal life with one working kidney, and people can donate to a loved one in need or can donate altruistically to a stranger on the waiting list who is a match. To find out more, please visit [www.livingdonation.scot](http://www.livingdonation.scot).

In advance of our annual Excellence Awards in May, I'd like to congratulate the Human Resources and Organisational Development directorate's local winners. Krizia Mazzoni took the HR&OD Employee of the Year Award, while Steven Reid was recognised as Leader of the Year. The Teaching and Learning Centre reception team took the Team of the Year Award and the One HR team was awarded Volunteers of the Year. Andrew Clark and Paul Cogan were joint winners of the Innovation award, and Claire Robertson was given the Director's Award. Congratulations to each one of you.

Finally, I'd like to share some touching feedback from a family member regarding Ward 62 at the QEUH:

"I took my mum into A&E this morning when she suffered a small stroke. I was almost moved to tears by the kindness and respect shown by all the staff who came into contact with her during the course of her admission. The main reason I wanted to write this though was because when I returned to visit her in the stroke ward this evening, the nurse who had checked her into ward 62 this morning, passed me in the lift after the end of her shift. She remembered my name and told me my Mum was looking forward to seeing me. This may seem like a small thing but for me it symbolised the person-centred care that my Mum is receiving just now. Small gestures like that make an enormous difference. I'm only sorry I couldn't thank everyone by name but thank you all so much for your presence and compassion."

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