

Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive (15 October 2020, 3.45pm)

As I have highlighted in recent weeks, the public flu vaccination programme is now underway across NHSGGC. I recognise that many of you will have family members or loved ones who are eligible to receive a vaccination. The majority for the 65+ age group have already been sent, however we recognise that there are concerns about the phasing of appointments and we are working to do all we can to quicken the process, ensure appointment letters are received quickly and try to allay the fears, particularly those of our oldest residents, that they will receive their vaccination before the flu starts to circulate.

Over the coming weeks, we expect to vaccinate over 400,000 members of the public in our area alone and tens of thousands have already been seen by their GP, community pharmacist or visited a community vaccination centre. This is a huge programme and we do not underestimate the task in hand, but I am confident that we will achieve all we have set out to do and that everyone who is eligible for a vaccination will have been offered the opportunity to have it. I would once again like to thank all of those who are playing a role in the delivery of this programme.

On a different note and in light of the recent announcement by the Scottish Government asking people to avoid using public transport unless absolutely necessary, we have made it easier to park at work by temporarily relaxing parking restrictions on hospital sites with managed car parking services.

Staff can once again park in any available space that was previously designated for individual, visitor or shared car use.

At the GRI site, free parking has already been extended until the end of December 2020. In order to accommodate permit holders on this site, a single floor of the car park will remain for permit only, but every other space will be available to all.

I am fully aware that during the height of the pandemic, Glasgow City Council did relax their on-street parking restrictions, however, unfortunately they are not in a position to do this again at this stage. Therefore, I would like to remind staff working at our sites in the city that they will need to adhere to parking restrictions if they choose to park off-campus. Likewise, enforcement will still take place for yellow line, obstructive or dangerous parking practices, including inappropriate parking within disabled and emergency bays.

We will continue to keep our car parking restrictions under review in line with Scottish Government guidance on the national response to the pandemic. I hope these changes will go some way to supporting staff during this period and I would like to thank you all for your continued efforts.

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