

# Core Brief



## **Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive (19 April 2024, 2.30pm)**

Yesterday, as colleagues may have seen, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and NHS Lothian announced a formal pause on the prescribing of puberty hormone suppressants and gender-affirming hormones to young people. In making the announcement, Dr Emilia Crighton, Director of Public Health, spoke of the challenges surrounding the public debate on this issue, which has undoubtedly affected both our young patients and our colleagues. I appreciate how difficult this time has been for all working with, and for, our gender identity services and I want to thank colleagues in Sandyford Sexual Health Services and our paediatric endocrinology team for their continued professionalism and commitment to their patients.

I was delighted to see that a number of NHSGGC and HSCP colleagues have been recognised in this year's RCN Nurse of the Year Awards. Our finalists are: John McDonald, Senior Addiction Nurse at the North East Alcohol and Drug Recovery Service, Glasgow; Margaret Harkin, In-Reach District Nurse at Inverclyde HSCP; Shona Malone, Interim Operational Manager at Prison Health Care HMP Low Moss; Pauline Zvimba, Senior Advanced Nurse Practitioner at Auchinlea CMHT; David McLaughlin, HCSW Education and Development Lead; Police Custody Healthcare at Govan Police Station; West of Scotland Mother & Baby Unit at Leverndale Hospital; and, NHSGGC Practice Education at West Glasgow ACH and Gartnavel Royal Hospital.

These nurses deserve to be recognised for how they have raised the standard of care and the impact that their work has on others. My congratulations to them all on being finalists.

Also, this week, my congratulations go to this year's local award winners for the Diagnostic Directorate. The winners are: Employee of the Year – Lisa Cairney, Radiographer, Cardiac CT Scanning, GRI; Leader of the Year – Freya Johnson, Consultant Reporting Radiographer; Team of the Year – Prostate Script Project Team, Radiotherapy Physics; Innovation of the Year – Total Skin Electron Beam Therapy, Clinical Engineering and Radiotherapy Physics; and, Volunteer of the Year - Joint Winners - Monica Dillon, Biomedical Scientist, Pathology and Kayleigh Quinn, Biomedical Scientist, Pathology, Laboratory Medicine. Well done to you all!



This week, the programme of visits by Board members to our services has continued with visits by members of the Care and Clinical Governance Committee to the Vale of Leven Health and Care Centre, the Vale of Leven Hospital Day Surgery Unit and the Institute of Neurological Sciences and a visit by the Audit and Risk Committee to the Medical Receiving Ward at Inverclyde Royal Hospital. These visits provide an excellent opportunity for Board members to hear first-hand from staff about the services we provide and I want to thank all those involved in arranging the visits and in making our Board members feel welcomed.



As we continue to redesign services and embrace new ways of working, I wanted to highlight a real success story in unscheduled care. Our Flow Navigation Centre (FNC) has grown into an incredibly important pathway for unscheduled care patients since its launch in 2020. In the last six months alone, the FNC has handled, on average, 410 consultations per week, resulting in more than 40% of

patients being discharged entirely through the FNC, without ever having to go to an ED or Minor Injuries Unit. As well as helping patients avoid hospital attendance or admission entirely, those seen by the FNC who do need to go to an MIU can be given a scheduled appointment, which helps us manage footfall and provides a better experience for our patients. My gratitude goes to everyone involved in the creation and running of the FNC, which continues to demonstrate how innovative approaches to care are positively transforming the way we deliver services.

Finally this week, I want to share some lovely feedback from a patient who was supported in a home birth. This patient writes:

“I had the most wonderful experience with the Glasgow Home Birth team. I was supported and cared for at every stage.

“My midwife took the time to fully explain all of my options, make sure I understood everything, and respected all of my choices. I truly received individualised care and I’m so thankful to them for helping me to have the most connected and calm birth I could have hoped for.

“I felt safe and supported throughout my pregnancy, during my birth, and afterwards.

Thank you to the team for supporting me to have an experience that I will treasure forever.”

My thanks too go to the Home Birth Team for your person-centred approach to caring for this patient.

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