

Core brief

**Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive
(22 December 2022, 3.05pm)**

With another year almost over, I want to wish everyone within NHSGGC and our HSCPs the very best for the festive period and to thank you all for your support and hard work over the past 12 months.

The past year has at times been very challenging, with prolonged periods of pressure across our health and social care services. While COVID 19 is not completely dominating our lives in quite the same way, we still have to treat significant numbers of patients with the virus. We still need people to be aware of the risks of COVID and to protect themselves and others by getting vaccinated, by wearing masks and following good hand hygiene in our hospitals. We also have the usual winter pressures, with flu and norovirus circulating in the community and it is essential that we continue to provide appropriate information to ensure patients are well informed about how to access the right care in the right place.

Despite these issues, I have been overwhelmed and humbled by the steadfast commitment and dedication shown by staff across all areas of NHSGGC. Together, we have achieved a huge amount since the turn of this year, and while we still have much to do, some of the changes and new ways of working that have been successfully implemented across our sites have been very well received by our patients and have enabled us to successfully continue to deliver person-centred care.

As you will have seen in my previous weekly core briefs, the level of gratitude afforded to our teams from our patients is immense. The work we undertake and the outcomes we produce are immeasurable and life changing for so many, and as we move towards the end of another year, it is really important that we also reflect on the impact our commitment to quality patient care has on the lives of many thousands of individuals and their loved ones year on year.

I recognise that for many of our staff, a proportion of the festive period will be spent at work, caring for others, supporting colleagues to deliver care and keeping our sites safe, clean and warm for patients and visitors. While the work of each and every staff member is vitally important right across the year, your contribution becomes all the more significant to our patients, their friends and family members at this time of year.

I hope that each of you is able to have some time for festive activities over the Christmas and New Year period and you are able to enjoy spending some quality time with your loved ones. Thank you for all of your efforts and dedication to your patients and one another over the past 12 months, it is, as ever, greatly appreciated.