

NHSGGC

# Core Brief



## Report from the December 2025 meeting of NHSGGC Board (23 December 2025, 8.15am)

The NHS Board met on Thursday 18 December 2025. The full set of papers are [here](#).

This summary sets out key decisions and issues considered at the meeting.



### Chair's Report

Dr Lesley Thomson, KC, paid tribute to Director of Public Health, Dr Emilia Crighton, who was attending her last meeting of the Board prior to her retirement. The Chair expressed her gratitude for Dr Crighton's significant contribution to the Board and for her leadership nationally including the implementation and delivery of Scotland's abdominal aortic aneurysm and bowel screening programmes.

### Chief Executive's Report

Professor Jann Gardner expressed her sincere thanks to all staff for their impressive response to the significant demands experienced in recent weeks.

She outlined a number of events that she and the Chair attended including visits by the Cabinet Secretary for the Health and Social Care to Gartnavel General Hospital, a visit by the First Minister to Queen Elizabeth University Hospital and a visit by the Director-General, Health and Social Care to Glasgow Royal Infirmary. The Chair also hosted the First Minister when he carried out the official opening of the Parkhead Hub.

Along with the Chair, Professor Gardner attended the Scottish Health Awards recognising the achievements of colleagues. Professor Gardner also joined colleagues at the Whole System Hackathon and the Culture Hackathon.

Looking forward, the Chief Executive highlighted various upcoming events, including a visit by the First Minister to the Royal Hospital for Children ahead of Christmas.

### Patient Story

Professor Angela Wallace, Executive Nurse Director, introduced this month's [story](#) which introduces patient, Mary, who describes her journey and the support she and her family were given by staff.



## **Transforming Together Programme**

William Edwards, Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Operating Officer and Claire MacArthur, Director of Planning, provided a comprehensive update on the Transforming Together programme.

Key highlights in the period included:

### **GGC Way Forward**

- OPAT Service launched at GRI in November
- Point of care rapid troponin testing launched in November at QEUH

### **Interface & Urgent Care**

- GP Calls to FNC+ Plus South sector went live at the end of October, North sector went live at the end of November
- Escalation & Decompression Huddles commenced in November to support hospital flow
- New Headache, Hypertension and Discharge to Scan pathways within FNC+ Plus launched in November
- System Reset to decompress the system took place from 20 November to 8 December supporting timely discharge and improved occupancy levels

### **Women & Children**

- First Paediatric virtual beds launched in November

The Board noted the progress being made to deliver the ambitious transformation programme at pace and scale.

The full report can be viewed [here](#).

## **Implementation of Sub-national Planning: Co-operation and Planning Directions 2025**

Professor Jann Gardner, Chief Executive, presented the paper which sets out the DL(2025)25 published on 14th November 2025 and a Ministerial Direction to Health Boards

to collaborate on the development of joint plans on key priorities.

In January 2025 the First Minister launched the Service Renewal Framework, which was published alongside the Population Health Framework and Public Sector Reform Strategy in June 2025. All three emphasised the need for closer collaborative working between Scotland's large number of public sector bodies and focussing on a smaller number of priorities in so doing.

DL(2025)25 establishes two new Subnational Planning and Delivery Committees (SPDC), East and West. NHSGGC will be part of SPDC-West, with the Chair and Chief Executive of NHSGGC as lead Chair and Chief Executive, respectively. These SPDCs will be expected to focus on the construction of a plan focussing on five key deliverables:

- Delivering orthopaedic services compliant with national Treatment Time Guarantees
- Delivering improved Emergency Healthcare Services
- Progressing national programmes for the delivery of a “digital front door”
- Maximising opportunities to align “business systems” functions
- An aligned financial plan with an emphasis on returning the system to balance

DL(2025)25 is clear that there is no change to accountabilities for each Board for clinical, staff, or financial governance.

The Board noted the DL and its implications for NHSGGC.

The full paper is available [here](#).

## Innovation Story

Dr Scott Davidson, Medical Director, introduced the [innovation video](#) which features Consultant Neonatologist Dr Neil Patel and Dr Katriona Brooksbank, head of the West of Scotland Innovation Hub, explaining the new point of care genetic test for newborns who require antibiotics. The test looks for a genetic variant that can result in hearing loss for babies given the antibiotic Gentamicin.



## **In-depth Review of SAERS (Significant Adverse Event Reviews) and new Policy**

Dr Scott Davidson, Medical Director, presented the outcome of the review into the management of SAERS within NHSGGC and an updated draft SAERS policy incorporating the learning from the review.

The policy sets out the commitment of NHSGGC to carry out timely and high-quality reviews. It is recognised that any delay may have a detrimental effect on the patient and family and that a timely SAER is important to identify and share learning, and to minimise the consequence and impact of any recurrence of the event.

Over the past year significant efforts have been made to reduce overdue SAERs and work continues to improve and streamline the SAER process.

The Board approved the SAERS policy.

***To view all papers presented to the Board visit:***  
***[www.nhsggc.scot](http://www.nhsggc.scot) > About Us > NHSGGC Board***

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