

# Core Brief



**Daily update**  
**(25 October 2023, 10am)**

Topics in this Core Brief:

- Update from the Area Partnership Forum

## **Update from the Area Partnership Forum**

The Area Partnership Forum (APF) provides staff, through their Trade Unions and professional organisations, with a forum to engage formally with NHSGGC as an employer. This ensures that staff views can be raised and can influence the work of our Health Board. The APF operates jointly with Corporate Management Team representation from across NHSGGC and Staff Side representatives from our recognised Trade Unions and professional organisations, who, together, work in partnership to the benefit of our staff and our patients.

The APF Workforce is jointly chaired by the Employee Director, Ann Cameron-Burns and the Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development, Anne MacPherson.

The Area Partnership Forum Workforce meeting took place last week. A number of important matters were discussed at the Forum and the following is an overview for staff.

## **Service updates**

At every APF, the Forum receives an update from a senior leader from Acute, a senior leader from the HSCPs and from the Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development. This ensures there is a shared understanding of key issues and provides staff side with a chance to ask questions and raise any queries or issues from their members.

At October's meeting, the following updates were provided:

- The Forum received an overview of Acute performance, highlighting that thanks to the hard work of staff across NHSGGC, our performance benchmarked favourably with other NHS Boards in the west of Scotland. The Forum discussed the importance of the local escalation process when

matters become more challenging with a further update to be presented at a future Forum.

- The Forum discussed the importance clear and consistent messages for staff who develop Covid. It was clarified that NHSGGC's approach is the nationally agreed guidance for all Scottish Boards which was reissued recently, however, further communication will be shared with staff and teams to provide clarity.
- The Forum received an update on RAAC, the type of concrete that has recently featured in the news. Buildings across the NHSGGC estate are being surveyed as part of the national NHS Scotland Assure led survey programme which is ensuring consistency of approach across NHS Boards in Scotland. Buildings identified will then be subject to further assessments and relevant communication to staff actioned. The Area Partnership Forum will receive regular updates.

APF members considered a range of papers and presentations including:

- NHSGGC Staff Health Strategy Update and the Staff Hardship Fund
- NHSGGC iMatter update
- Update on the closure programme for West Glasgow Ambulatory Care Hospital

### **Staff Health Strategy and Staff Hardship Fund**

John Somerville, Head of Occupational Health, provided an overview of key deliverables within the new Staff Health Strategy being presented to the NHSGGC Board in October 2023. Key priorities of the new strategy are:

1. Mental Health and Wellbeing
2. Promote a fair and healthy workplace
3. Address in-work poverty and promote holistic wellbeing to mitigate inequalities in health
4. Support for managing attendance

Staff can find out more about the range of support available to them on [HR Connect](#).

One of the recent strands launched under priority three, is a new Staff Hardship Fund. Hardship grants are considered as part of a wider needs assessment discussion, to ensure any member of staff seeking to access the fund is also able to access sustainable, long-term support. The service is entirely confidential and the details of anyone applying will not be shared with anyone. You can find more information about how to apply via the [NHSGGC Support and Information Service](#) or on [the intranet](#).

## iMatter Results

Liam Spence, Head of Staff Experience, provided the APF with an update on the results of our [2023 iMatter survey](#). It was noted that the number of staff completing the survey, our engagement rate and the number of action plans compiled based on staff feedback had all improved in 2023.

The APF noted that the most important thing about iMatter is that the staff feedback is used to make things better for all staff. Further updates on improvement themes being collated in directorates/HSCPs will be provided to a future APF.

## West Glasgow Ambulatory Care Hospital (WGACH)

Natalie Smith, Depute Director of Human Resources, provided an update on the ongoing plans to close WGACH. There are a number of teams and services still based at the site and work is progressing on where best to relocate those teams. A project team, working in partnership, has been established, which will include developing a communications and engagement plan for affected staff.

Remember, for all your latest news stories, visit our new Staffnet Hub:

[GGC-Staffnet Hub - Home \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

If something isn't right, talk to...  
**Health, Wellbeing and Spiritual Support**



Occupational Health	Peer Support	Chaplaincy Service
If you are experiencing health and wellbeing issues, our occupational health team, including our clinical psychologists will support you when you need it most.	Peer Supporters help staff by giving them the time and safe space to talk and by providing a friendly ear to listen. This can help make sense of recent experiences, can give a sense of control and help manage difficult situations.	The spiritual care service provides compassionate, person-centred, spiritual care, bereavement, emotional and wellbeing support to staff and students from all backgrounds, beliefs, faiths and none.



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A full archive of printable PDFs are available on the [website](#)