

# Core brief

**Daily update**  
**(30 August 2022, 12.20pm)**

Topics in this Core Brief:

- Extended use of face masks and face coverings guidance
- Upcoming Postal Disruption
- Meet your admin colleagues

## **Extended use of face masks and face coverings guidance**

The COVID-19 extended use of face masks and face coverings in hospitals, primary care and wider community healthcare guidance was reviewed by Scottish Government in July 2022.

Based on the review it is recommended that **the guidance should remain in place throughout the winter period (2022/23)**.

### **Current guidance - staff in acute and hospital settings (including ambulance staff)**

Table one outlines the following situations where staff providing direct care to individuals are strongly recommended to wear a face mask at all times throughout their shift.

#### **Table one**

The table below sets out when FRSMs should be worn in hospitals:

Situation	FRSM	Exceptions to wearing FRSM
Direct patient care	It is strongly recommended that you wear a FRSM at all times when providing direct patient care unless an FFP3 respirator is required in line with national guidance	If the person they are supporting/caring for is a person who lip-reads to communicate then a transparent face mask may be worn, or, after a risk assessment when the person they are supporting/caring for is showing signs of distress. Wherever possible, maintain two-metre distancing if FRSM removed.

Present within and moving around clinical areas	It is strongly recommended that you wear a FRSM at all times throughout your shift	If the person they are supporting/caring for is a person who lip-reads to communicate then a transparent face mask may be worn, or, after a risk assessment when the person they are supporting/caring for is showing signs of distress. Wherever possible, maintain two-metre distancing if FRSM removed.
Non-clinical areas	It is strongly recommended that you wear a FRSM (or your own face covering) when moving around (i.e. not seated at your desk).	When working alone in an office or when seated in a well-ventilated multi-occupancy office and after appropriate hand hygiene. If going into a clinical area, FRSM should be worn.
Break times	It is strongly recommended that you wear a FRSM at all times when not seated and/or eating.	When seated and after appropriate hand hygiene.

There will also be instances of staff who may suffer from breathing difficulties, or suffer from genuine discomfort or distress when wearing a FRSM. We expect staff to be fully supported and appropriate steps taken locally to implement the guidance in a way that has regard to staff well-being. A workforce risk assessment should be undertaken.

### Upcoming Postal Disruption

Royal Mail have confirmed that there will be strike action taking place on the following dates: Wednesday 31 August, Thursday 8 September and Friday 9 September.

While Royal Mail is continuing to hold further discussions with the Communication Workers Union (CWU) in an attempt to avert industrial action; there is not guarantee that these talks will be successful.

In order to minimise disruption as much as possible you are advised to send post items as early as possible in advance of the strike dates: Wednesday 31 August, Thursday 8 September and Friday 9 September.

### Meet your admin colleagues

We would like to showcase some of your admin colleagues across NHSGGC. The videos below have been created by two of our administration team, [Brenda Elliot](#) and [Fiona Abbot](#), to give them the opportunity to showcase who they are, where the work and why NHSGGC is a great organisation to work in and develop your career. Further videos will be produced, so watch out for some more of your colleagues.



You can also view these videos on our Professional Administration Transformation Programme SharePoint [GGC - Professional Administration Transformation Programme - Home](#) If you would like more

information on our PAT programme or to be involved in making a short video, please contact your sector Administration Governance Manager.



Please keep up-to-date with the latest guidance on our dedicated web pages at: [www.nhsggc.scot](http://www.nhsggc.scot). If you have any questions about the current situation please check the FAQs first. If you have any further questions, please email: [HR.Support@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:HR.Support@ggc.scot.nhs.uk).

\*\*\*Staff are reminded to make sure their [personal contact details are up to date on eESS](#).\*\*\*

**It is important to share Core Brief with colleagues who do not have access to a computer.  
A full archive of printable PDFs are available on [StaffNet](#)**