

NHSGGC

# Core Brief



**Daily update**  
**(31 March 2026, 12.10pm)**

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## **NHSGGC achieves Equally Safe at Work (ESaW) Bronze Award, a first for an NHS Board in Scotland**

On 26th March, Close The Gap visited NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC) to present us with our Bronze accreditation for achieving the [Equally Safe at Work \(ESaW\) programme](#), making us the first NHS Board in Scotland to achieve this historic milestone.

This isn't "just an award". It's independent, external validation that we are taking gender equality and the prevention of sexual harassment, Violence Against Women (VAW) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) seriously, and that we can evidence what we've put in place.



The award was presented by Kelsey Smith (Head of ESaW at Close The Gap) to Natalie Smith (NHSGGC Interim Director of HR & OD).

To achieve Bronze, NHSGGC completed 58 outcomes across six standards: leadership, data, flexible working, occupational segregation, workplace culture, and VAW prevention and we have:

- Strengthened our policies and practice
- Created enhanced training, support and advice routes, and;
- Improved organisational focus on leadership, culture and data.

Please take 3 minutes to read [the full Staffnet article](#) and use the [Cut it Out/ESaW webpage/hub](#) to find guidance, training, and support routes, whether you're raising a concern, supporting a colleague, or managing a team.

Support and advice are available to any member of staff who has experienced harassment, inappropriate behaviours, VAW or GBV:

1.	Your Line Management	9.	<a href="#">NHSGGC Civility Saves Lives</a>
2.	<a href="#">Confidential Contacts - NHSGGC</a>	10.	<a href="#">The SARC Service - Turn to SARCS</a>
3.	<a href="#">HR Support and Advice Unit</a> - via the <a href="#">HR Self Service Portal</a> or calling <a href="#">0141 278 2700</a> (Option 2)	11.	<a href="#">Women's Aid – Support and Advice</a>
4.	Bullying and Harassment helpline on <a href="#">0141 201 8545</a>	12.	<a href="#">Scottish Domestic Abuse and Forced Marriage Helpline</a>
5.	<a href="#">Speak Up! - NHSGGC</a>	13.	<a href="#">Violence Reduction Service (Health &amp; Safety)</a>
6.	<a href="#">Spiritual Care Services</a>	14.	<a href="#">Stalking and Harassment Risk Assessment</a>
7.	<a href="#">Occupational Health Services</a>	15.	<a href="#">Police Scotland - Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse</a>
8.	<a href="#">Peer Support Network - NHSGGC</a>	16.	<a href="#">Trade Union and Professional Organisation</a>





## Routine blood-borne virus (BBV) testing in emergency departments

### Opt-out testing for blood borne viruses at GRI Emergency Department

Announced last week, NHSGGC opt-out testing for blood borne viruses is now taking place at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary (GRI) Emergency Department.

The approach is part of a national plan to eliminate Hepatitis C and end new HIV transmission.

Testing will take place where possible for patients aged 16 to 69 who are already having blood taken during their emergency care. Individuals will be tested for HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C, unless they choose to opt out.

Testing for blood borne viruses remains entirely optional, and anyone who does not wish tested can let a member of staff know.

Testing will start at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary (GRI) and may later be rolled out to other Emergency Departments in Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

This service is only available for people who have an emergency that requires them to attend ED. Routine blood borne virus testing services are available at [sexual health services](#), GPs, alcohol and drug recovery services, [THT](#) and [Waverley Care](#).

Read the [full story on Staffnet](#), and find more information on blood borne viruses and testing on the [NHS Inform website](#).

[Read more](#)

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### Do you need advice or support to carry out patient or public feedback, or engagement activities?

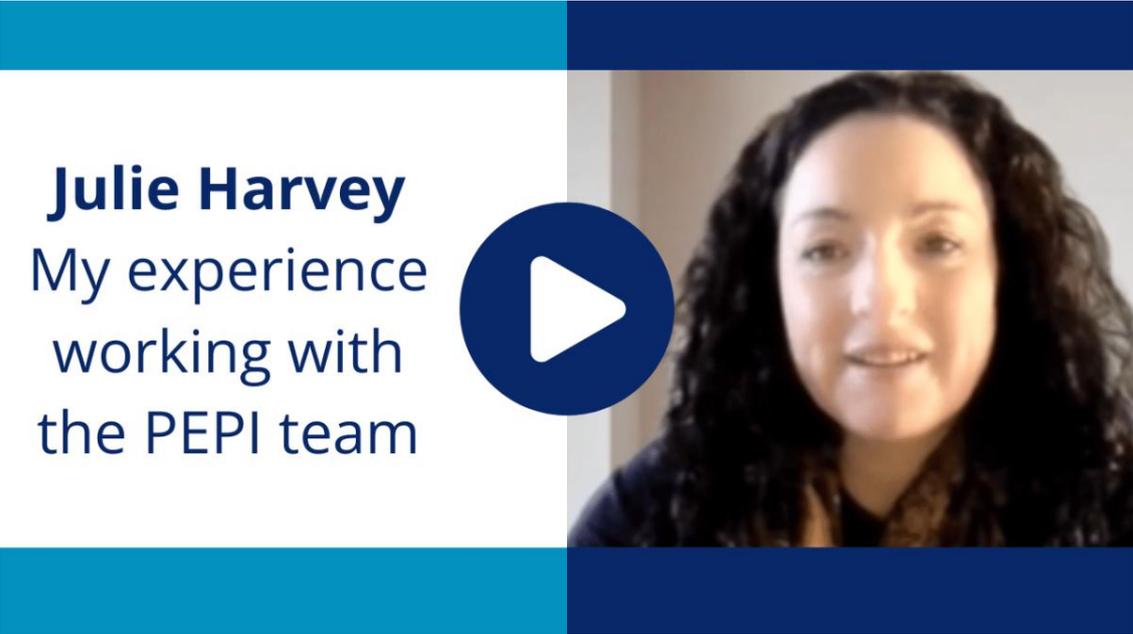
Did you know the Patient Experience Public Involvement (PEPI) Team can help you plan, design and carry out feedback and engagement activities with

patients, families and the wider public? Talking to our patients and communities' helps us understand what we are doing well - and what we need to change.

Fill out our easy-to-use form here: [Patient Experience Public Involvement Advice and Support Request](#) and within 7 days a member of the PEPI Team will be in touch to discuss what support we can offer:

- general information and advice
- if you already have a feedback or engagement activity in mind, we can help you with a range of things such as choosing which methods to use, how to identify your participants, what questions to ask and how to use the feedback you gather to support service change and improvement.

In this short video Julie Harvey, Practice Development Physiotherapist describes how the support request process helped to successfully increase patient participation in an Active Wards survey provided by the team, as well as providing training on public engagement:



The video player thumbnail features a dark blue header and footer. On the left, the text 'Julie Harvey My experience working with the PEPI team' is displayed in a dark blue font. To the right of the text is a large white play button icon on a dark blue circular background. The right side of the thumbnail shows a video frame of Julie Harvey, a woman with dark curly hair, smiling.

Contact the PEPI team now ([ggc.patient.experience@nhs.scot](mailto:ggc.patient.experience@nhs.scot)) for information and advice about ways you can involve patients, families and communities and help improve how our services are delivered now, and in the future.

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## **New look NHSGGC core statutory and mandatory modules on LearnPro: Once for Scotland modules have arrived**

The Once for Scotland set of Core Statutory Mandatory Training Modules have arrived for all staff in NHS Scotland and are now available in your personal LearnPro account. The majority of these modules are not new for us in NHSGGC - the Once for Scotland version will update 8 out of our existing 9 modules. New to NHSGGC as a mandatory module is Fraud Awareness and all staff will need to complete this within 6 months if not already completed through the LearnPro general catalogue. NHSGGC will continue to retain the current core mandatory module for all staff, GGC: 002 Health and Safety, An Introduction. This will be 10 core modules for all staff in NHSGGC.

Remember:

- Staff will remain compliant in the NHSGGC equivalent core modules already completed and only move to Once for Scotland modules at the date of module renewal. All modules are listed here: [Statutory and Mandatory Training - NHSGGC](#)
- NHSGGC compliance reporting for the completion of learning will continue to be reported in the same way using MicroStrategy and internal notifications to managers and staff to outline any action required to maintain compliance
- In line with the 2023/2024 Agenda for Change pay agreement, staff must be allocated time during working hours to complete their Mandatory training.

If you do have any questions or queries, please contact the:

- LE Support Team: [NHS Service Now Portal](#) – Click on the L&E Icon and fill in the relevant fields. You will receive an acknowledgement which will include a ticket number for your query. [How to raise a query](#) through NHS Service Now Portal.
- Or you can call us on 0141 278 2700 Option 3

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## **Week 1 of Catch your Breath Sessions - part of Stress Awareness Month**

Stress can build quickly during busy working days. Taking even 10 minutes to slow your breathing can help your body settle and refocus.

As part of Stress Awareness Month why not try a small reset in your day?

Join our 10 minute “Catch Your Breath” breathing session this week. No preparation needed – simply book on to the Teams link and take a short pause for yourself.

### **Catch Your Breath Sessions – 10-minute sessions**

- Week 1 – Thursday 2 April, 12.00pm - [Book here](#)
- Week 2 – Tuesday 7 April, 12.00pm – [Book Here](#)
- Week 3 – Wednesday 15 April, 11.30am - [Book Here](#)
- Week 4 – Monday 20 April, 1.00pm - [Book here](#)
- Week 5 – Thursday 30 April, 2.00pm – [Book Here](#)

Even a brief pause can make a difference.

Find full session details on the [StaffNet page](#).

[Read more](#)

**Remember, for all your latest news stories, visit the Staffnet Hub:**

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



**Getting the right care is as easy as ABC**

**A**

**Ask yourself**  
Do I need to go out?  
For information on treating minor illnesses and injuries from home, go to **NHS inform** or download the **NHS 24 App**.

**B**

**Be aware**  
There is help on your doorstep.  
Your local **GP, pharmacy, dental practice and optician** offer a range of services.

**C**

**Call 111**  
If it's urgent, or you're unsure, call **NHS 24** on **111**.  
They'll get you the care you need.

**Unless it's an emergency - think ABC before visiting A&E.**  
For more information: [www.nhsggc.scot/rcrp](http://www.nhsggc.scot/rcrp)



\*\*\*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 the [website](#)**