

Core brief

Daily update

(4 April 2023, 11.00am)

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Changes to COVID-19 guidance

Although we have seen an increase in Covid-19 cases in recent weeks, most patients have had mild symptoms at most and there have been no patients admitted to ICU. There are early signs that numbers are stabilising or reducing.

In line with guidance elsewhere in the UK, we have decided to change the guidance for use of facemasks in our hospitals.

From this week, facemasks are no longer compulsory in public areas or when staff are making their way around our hospitals. However, the use of masks is strongly recommended when providing patient care or passing through a clinical area. In the care of children, the use of masks should be risk-assessed.

There will be no change to guidance around testing:

- Staff should only perform an LFT if they are symptomatic.
- Symptomatic patients will continue to be tested to guide their care as well as for IPC.
- There is no requirement for contacts of a positive person to perform an LFT, except under direction of our IPC teams.

Given the high occupancy rates all our sites are currently experiencing, and the risks of moving patients away from their host speciality ward weighed against the relatively low risk from COVID, guidance on moving patients and pausing admissions to wards is also changing. Where appropriate, you will receive a detailed briefing on these changes.

We would like to thank you for your co-operation in implementing these changes, and for your continuing commitment and professionalism in these difficult times.

Better Workplace – Ple-eESS update your eESS

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion continues to be a priority for all of us in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

As part of this, we collect data on all protected characteristics. This helps us to make the right provisions for our diverse workforce.

Up to date data helps us understand the demographics and diversity of our workforce, enabling us to identify strengths and continuous improvement opportunities, and ensuring the right resources, facilities and support are available for you and your colleagues.

Ple-eESS support by accessing and updating your personal data on eESS [here](#), select “Personal Information”, then click “Update” in the ‘Basic Details’ section and a screen will open with options to add your equalities data. Please remember your manager will NOT have access to these protected characteristics. All information provided is secured confidentially in adherence to General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

You can also update your personal contact details or emergency contacts in the same section of eESS, if these have changed since you last updated your information.

All HR, L&E and eESS enquiries and requests should be submitted via the new HR Self Service Portal. You can contact the teams on 0141 278 2700 for any urgent enquiries. The link to the HR Self Service Portal can be accessed via the following link: https://nhsnss.service-now.com/ggc_hr

If you’re not sure of your login or password for eESS, click on Login Assistance underneath the Login button on the main page using this [link](#). You are also able to view the guidance to use eESS [here](#) which includes a short eLearning demo.

Your data will help us all build a Better Workplace together, thank you for your continued support.

M8 roadworks – Junction 25 & 25a

We have been advised by Amey that bridge maintenance work will take place on the eastbound M8 at junction 25 (Cardonald) to junction 25a (Braehead) from 17 April – 27 July. This will involve lane closures of the east and westbound lanes, as

well as some overnight closures. It is expected this will lead to additional congestion at peak times. Please plan ahead and allow more time for travel.

More information is available from [Amey](#). Information on active and sustainable travel is available from the [Travel Plan Office](#).

Active Staff – Guided Health Walk



Our next Guided Health Walk is available to book now! On **Saturday 29 April**, we are heading to **Ben Gullipen – Callander**. Ben Gullipen is a small hill which lies to the south of the village of Callander at the edge of the Menteith Hills. After an easy ascent through the Callandrade Forest and out onto the open hill, on a good forest road, the views suddenly open up towards Ben Ledi and the Callander Crags. The view from the summit provide a panorama of Loch Vennachar and Loch Lubnaig.

This walk will take between four and five hours at a steady pace and is available to all NHSGGC/HSCP staff. [Please click here to register](#).



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](#)