

Daily update (4 November 2025, 4.30pm)

Topics in this Core Brief include:

- Visit from Scotland's First Minister
- <u>Understanding the spectrum of Gender Based Violence and taking action</u>
- Supporting our Armed Forces Community within the Workforce
- Catch Your Breath International Stress Awareness Week (3 7 November 2025)
- Training opportunity Introduction to Health Literacy 10 November 2025

Visit from Scotland's First Minister

We were delighted to welcome Scotland's First Minister, Mr John Swinney, MSP to the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital yesterday.

During his visit, the First Minister learned about the positive work underway across NHSGGC to reduce long patient waits. Our teams showcased how Scottish Government investment, service innovation, and increased productivity are being harnessed to improve patient care and treatment times.

The First Minister met teams in ENT Outpatients/Audiology and the Same Day Admissions Unit, where staff shared successful patient pathways and service improvements. Ms Swinney concluded his visit at Ward 9D (Surgical), where he spoke directly with patients who expressed their appreciation for the dedication and care provided by NHSGGC staff.



Understanding the spectrum of Gender Based Violence and taking action

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde's <u>Cut it Out</u> / <u>Equally Safe at Work (ESaW)</u> programme addresses the serious issue of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), which stems from gender inequality and disproportionately affects women. This violence isn't limited to what's visible; it covers a wide spectrum of controlling and harmful behaviours, which we must all recognise to support our colleagues effectively. As an organisation, NHSGGC is committed to tackling all these forms of GBV, ensuring staff know where to find <u>confidential help</u>, whether for themselves or for someone they are concerned about.

Key Strands of VAWG/GBV and Economic Control

VAWG/GBV covers a range of harmful acts, often interlinked, that violate a person's fundamental rights and dignity. Recognising these different strands is crucial for early intervention and appropriate response:

- Domestic Abuse / Intimate Partner Violence: Any pattern of controlling, coercive, or threatening behaviour, violence, or abuse between current or former intimate partners or family members.
- Sexual Violence: Any sexual act, attempted act, or behaviour directed against a
 person's sexuality without their consent. This includes rape, sexual assault, and
 sexual harassment in any setting.
- Stalking and Harassment: Persistent, unwanted attention, communication, or behaviour that causes the victim to feel distressed, scared, or intimidated.
- Harmful Practices: Acts such as Forced Marriage, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), and so-called 'Honour-Based' Abuse.
- Exploitation and Trafficking: Coercing, deceiving, or using force to control someone for the purpose of exploitation, often leading to forced prostitution or labour.
- Digital/Online Abuse: Using technology (social media, texts, tracking apps) to stalk, harass, blackmail, or share intimate images without consent.
- Economic Abuse (Financial Abuse): This is a key focus; it's the pattern of behaviour
 where an abuser controls a victim's access to money and financial resources. This
 can involve preventing them from working, forcing them into debt, controlling bank
 accounts, or withholding funds for necessities.

Taking Control with Safe Harbour

If you or a colleague is experiencing any of the above - especially the controlling nature of economic abuse, the NHS Credit Union's Safe Harbour service is a vital, confidential resource. This service is for all members and is designed to help you regain command over your finances by offering bespoke confidentiality regarding your money matters. Simply mentioning 'Safe Harbour' to the Credit Union staff signals you need discreet support to secure your financial independence, which is often a critical first step in leaving an abusive situation. To contact the NHS Credit Union, please Tel: 0.141.445.0022

Support and advice are available to any member of staff who has experienced harassment or GBV, <u>here</u>.

Supporting our Armed Forces Community within the Workforce

As we approach this important period of remembrance, we want to reaffirm our ongoing commitment to supporting the Armed Forces Community across NHS Greater Glasgow

and Clyde.

Within NHSGGC, our dedicated <u>Armed Forces HR Connect page</u> provides information, guidance, and resources tailored to those connected to the Armed Forces. If you are part of this community, we encourage you to join the <u>NHSGGC Armed Forces Community</u> <u>Facebook group</u> – a space for reservists, veterans, service leavers, spouses, partners, and cadet force adult volunteers to connect, share experiences, and stay up to date with activities across our Board.

Furthermore, our NHSGGC Armed Forces and Veterans Champion, Alexis Chappell (Chief Officer, East Renfrewshire HSCP), plays a vital role in advocating for and supporting colleagues who are veterans, reservists, service leavers, and their families. This includes promoting awareness, ensuring access to tailored resources, and helping foster a culture of inclusion and respect for the unique experiences of those who have served.

Finally, we continue to play an active role in the national Armed Forces Talent Programme, led by NHS Education for Scotland (NES). This initiative supports recruitment and career development for members of the Armed Forces Community, promoting workforce planning, attraction to NHS Scotland careers, and the strengthening of Armed Forces networks across all NHS Boards.

For more information on the <u>Armed Forces Talent Programme</u>, please visit their website.

Thank you for helping us foster an inclusive and supportive environment for our Armed Forces Community at NHSGGC.

Catch Your Breath – International Stress Awareness Week (3 – 7 November 2025)

Catch Your Breath – 12.00pm Tomorrow

Give yourself a 10-minute pause tomorrow and join our guided breathing session on Teams to slow down, focus, and recharge.

- Wednesday 5 November 12.00pm Book here
- Thursday 6 November 12.00pm Book here
- Friday 7 November 2.00pm Book here

If you can't join live, you can also access breathing exercises through our <u>Looking After Yourself and Others sessions</u> and elearning module on LearnPro, <u>staff mindfulness classes</u> or our <u>recorded wellbeing webinars.</u>

Training opportunity - Introduction to Health Literacy – 10 November 2025

What is Health Literacy?

Health literacy is the ability of people to act on health information to make appropriate decisions and live healthier lives. For NHSGGC staff, it's about ensuring we communicate with our patients and their carers in the right way so they can make informed choices and enable shared decision making about their treatment and care.



To find out why it is important and what you can do about it, we are running a number of **short 45-minute sessions** covering easy-to-learn Health Literacy techniques to improve patient care.

Course: Introduction to Health Literacy **Date:** Monday 10 November 2025

Time: 11.30am – 12.15pm Booking Link: book a place

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

GGC-Staffnet Hub - Home (sharepoint.com)











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 website