

Core brief

**Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive
(3 September 2021, 3.15pm)**

As you will have seen in the media, the number of COVID cases in our communities is particularly high at present, with approximately 2000 new cases a day at its height this week. We are also now seeing this increase in community transmission impacting significantly throughout our services.

We recognise that our acute staff are under considerable pressure, but this is also being felt more intensely in the Community Assessment Centres and Care Homes and by social work staff. I do not underestimate the enormity of the task that we all face, but we will face it together. We are fortunate to have such a committed and highly skilled workforce and we could not have achieved what we have done so far without each and every one of you. I am grateful to you all and want to thank you for your continued efforts.

I would also like to thank our GP and Community Pharmacy colleagues. In recent days we have seen some unfortunate criticism on our social media on how members of the public access primary care. I would like to reassure you that we are stepping up our efforts to inform and engage with members of the public to help them to understand the way to access the care pathway which is most appropriate for them. As part of this, we will reiterate that GP surgeries and local pharmacies are open and continuing to provide care to their patients. Thank you for your continued support and dedication to your patients.

Unfortunately we were not able to hold the official launch event for our Major Trauma Centre at the QEUH and RHC this week as planned. However, I am delighted to report that the service did become operational on Monday and patients will now be able to receive life-saving treatment through the newly established West of Scotland Trauma Network. So far, nine patients have been referred to the Major Trauma Centre. While it is unfortunate that we didn't have this opportunity to showcase the work of the network, and in particular our staff who work there, I have no doubt that we will be able to do so in the future.

As you will be aware, the global climate change conference, COP26, will be taking place in Glasgow in the coming weeks. We recognise that due to the size and scale of the conference and associated events there will be an impact on those of you who live and work in the city, not least regarding transport networks and access to facilities. To help staff prepare, a manager's guide will be launched next week, which is designed to assist staff with understanding the likely impact of COP26, encourage teams to start planning ahead and ensure we are COP26 ready. A [webpage](#) has also been created where we have shared useful links to where staff can find the most up to date information about what is happening in the city over the period.

Finally, I was pleased to see the great response to the call for nominations for this year's Excellence Awards. The team is currently taking the time to review all the nominations and I would like to thank everyone who submitted a nomination, highlighting some of the amazing work that has been underway across NHSGGC during the past 12 months. I would like to wish all nominees the very best of luck.

Thank you.