

Core brief

Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive
(27 August 2021, 4.10pm)

We continue to face ongoing pressures with rising numbers of COVID cases in the community, impacting on hospital admissions and staff absences. Our absolute priority is to support you, while finding ways for the service to navigate the current situation.

Amongst other measures, we have agreed to postpone some elective inpatient surgery that was due to take place next week. This will create capacity so we can respond to emergency cases, and continue to treat a range of urgent conditions, including cancer. This is not a decision that is taken lightly, but taking such a step for a period in a planned way will ensure that emergency and very urgent patients will receive the service they require.

As I highlighted last week, the Scottish Government has published its [NHS Recovery Plan](#). The plan covers a number proposed actions, which will span the next five years and the aim is to help services in acute, community and primary care to move forward following COVID.

I fully appreciate that, with the current challenges, looking forward to recovery over the next five years may seem a bit daunting however it is important to note that the health and wellbeing of our staff is critical to this recovery of services. The commitment within the plan to increase investment in staff wellbeing and support will be especially important as we work together to deliver it.

As we continue to deliver services at this current time, your health, wellbeing and overall employee experience is very important. I am therefore incredibly keen to hear the views of all our staff and encourage everyone to participate in the iMatter programme to share your views about how you are now and what is your reality. Your feedback is extremely important to help us continually improve our support to you and your colleagues. All feedback you provide is confidential.

I am delighted to say that the participation levels in iMatter are fantastic, with the first group currently sitting at 73% participation with a few days to go. I am very grateful to everyone who has made the time already – a huge thank you to everyone who has taken part so far.

This is an important time for everyone in NHSGGC, please complete the iMatter survey and use this opportunity to be heard, share your views and influence positive change to continuously build a better workplace.

Looking ahead to next week, I am really pleased that we will be formally launching the West of Scotland Trauma Network on Monday. This is a significant step forward in the provision of care and rehabilitation for patients who experience significant injury or illness and require specialist care. I am very much looking forward to seeing the West of Scotland Trauma Network becoming fully operational alongside the other areas in the wider Scottish Trauma Network and I would like to thank everyone who has worked so hard to bring the network to this point and to all of you who will play a role in its future.

Thank you for your continued commitment and the exceptional service you are providing to our patients and to each other throughout these extremely challenging times.

Thank you.

Are your contact details up-to-date? [Click here](#) to check