

Core brief

Daily update
(13 October 2021, 4.55pm)

Topics in this Core Brief:

- Get ready for COP26
- Revision to hospital visiting arrangements at Royal Alexandra Hospital from Wednesday 13 October at 8pm
- Feedback sought to help shape new Care Home support group

Get ready for COP26

Are you ready for COP26? With more than 25,000 people expected to attend COP26 between 31 October and 12 November, a high level of disruption to travel is expected, before, during and after the event.

Make sure you are prepared in advance by keeping up to date with all the potential impacts, visit: [NHSGGC: COP26 Climate Conference](#) or www.getreadyglasgow.com

Revision to hospital visiting arrangements at Royal Alexandra Hospital from Wednesday 13 October at 8pm

In line with the national guidance on hospital visiting, risk assessments are in place for all wards to ensure the ongoing safety of staff and patients. An Incident Management Team was convened earlier this week and has recommended that all acute wards at the RAH, **with the exception of maternity, gynaecology and mental health**, will undertake the temporary move to essential visiting for the next three weeks, from Wednesday 13 October at 8pm until Tuesday 2 November inclusive.

The RAH has, in recent weeks, experienced an increase in COVID-19 hospital admissions due to the heightened community prevalence in Renfrewshire. Due to the particular challenges within wards with open accommodation, the separation of patients and their visitors is more difficult. Likewise, observing social distancing and other mitigations against COVID are more challenging.

The revision to hospital visiting arrangements will commence across all wards from 8pm this evening. In addition, red pathway COVID Hubs will continue to be utilised to cohort and safely care for patients. Infection Prevention and Control Team have reviewed the situation and visiting in these Hubs are also restricted to 'essential visits only'.

The essential visiting arrangements will be applied flexibly and compassionately and each patient's needs considered on their own merits. Carers, those providing essential care or emotional support, or spiritual care are not considered to be visitors and should continue to be permitted to attend a patient in hospital.

The arrangements within the RAH will be kept under close review by the local IMT to ensure we optimise the safety of patients, families and staff.

No other sites are currently affected. This situation will be kept under close review and it is therefore vitally important for all clinical staff to communicate with patients and their families daily to advise to phone

the ward in advance of visiting to seek guidance about visiting arrangements in the ward they intend to visit.

Essential Visiting Criteria

The ‘**essential visiting criteria**’ is set out below. However, it is important to note that these examples are intended to be illustrative rather than exhaustive.

- A person receiving end-of-life care, to enable them to spend meaningful time with those who matter to them in their final days, weeks or months
- To support someone with a mental health issue, or dementia, or a learning disability or autism, where not being present would cause the patient to be distressed
- To support a patient receiving maternity care.

All patients and their family affected by these revisions to visiting should be offered daily **virtual visits** as a minimum to ensure they can see and talk to those people who matter most to them.

The successful ‘**Give and Go Service**’ available earlier in the pandemic will again be reinstated for family to drop-off essential personal items for patients and to pick up laundry etc. Details of when the service will commence will be shared shortly.

‘**Essential visiting guidance documents**’ for staff have been uploaded to the [Hospital Visiting Staff Pages](#).

Essential Visiting is already in place in the following wards:

Red Pathway COVID Hubs	Contact Wards
Ward 14	Ward 3
	Ward 5
	Ward 7
	Ward 10
	Ward 11
	Ward 18
	Ward 22
	Ward 29

In addition, from **Wednesday 13 October at 8pm** hospital visiting will be restricted to ‘**essential visits only**’ in these specific acute wards on the RAH site.

Additional wards where hospital visiting will be limited to essential visits only.		
Ward 4	Ward 21	CCU
Ward 8	Ward 23	HDU
Ward 27	Ward 24	Ward 36
Ward 20	Ward 28	Ward 6

Feedback sought to help shape new Care Home support group

Over the last 19 months, Care Home residents, families, managers, and care staff have faced great challenges physically, mentally and emotionally. NHSGGC is committed to work with and support care homes and their residents as we move forward.

A Care Home Collaborative is being set up to work with and further support care homes during and in recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic. The



Collaborative is based on the principles of bringing together all those involved in providing health and social care services in a homely setting and for those groups to work together towards a shared goal. That overarching goal is in the spirit of learning, sharing and improving together to ensure the best possible lives for care home residents aligned to what matters to them.

The Collaborative will consist of three hub teams – one for people in Glasgow City and one for people in East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, West Dunbartonshire and East Dunbartonshire. A third hub will serve as a Specialist Knowledge Centre that supports the other hubs. The Central Hub will offer support and advice on a broad scope of topics such as Infection Prevention and Control, Food Fluid and Nutrition, Tissue Viability, as well as quality improvement, education and leadership.

The work of the Collaborative will be guided by feedback from residents, families and staff including the broad range of people involved in the care home sector. In our first major piece of engagement work we are seeking feedback from you and would appreciate you sharing your thoughts.

[The Survey](#) is open for responses until the 5 November 2021 and should take no more than 15 minutes to complete.

Thank you... Your help, support and willingness to share experiences which will help shape the work of the Collaborative.

Social distancing is everyone's responsibility

Remember 2m distancing includes breaks and lunchtimes



Please keep up-to-date with the latest guidance on our dedicated web pages at: www.nhsggc.org.uk/covid19. If you have any questions about the current situation please check the FAQs first. If you have any further questions, please email: HR.Support@ggc.scot.nhs.uk.

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](#)