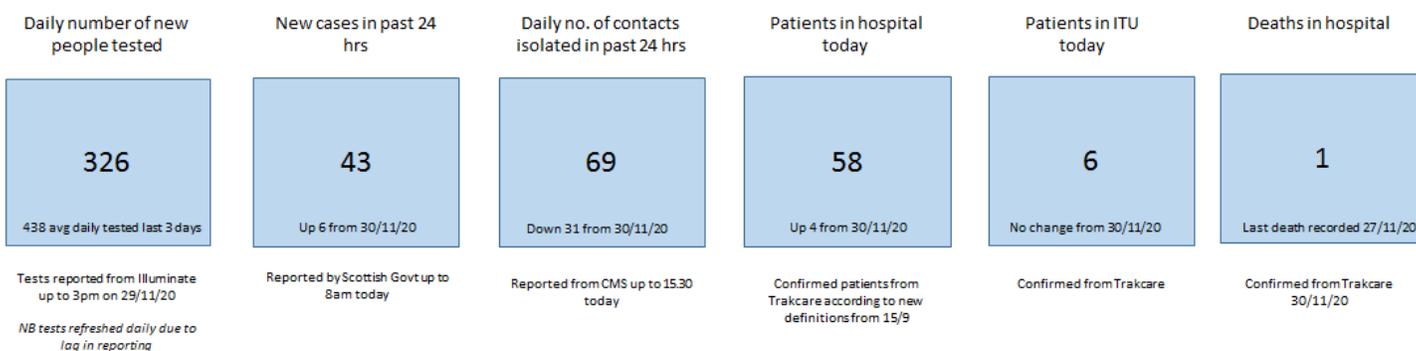


Here is the brief for Tuesday 1 December 2020.

Protection Levels update No changes have been proposed to Protection Levels in place in Scotland. For us in Grampian, this means Moray stays in [Level 1](#), Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire remain in [Level 2](#). However, the First Minister used her update in parliament to again highlight the growing number of cases in both Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire. Cases have risen in the City by 68% in the last week and by 42% in Aberdeenshire. Although both areas remain below the national average, case numbers are now higher than some areas in Level 3 restrictions. The Scottish Government have requested further analysis of the data for both Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire, along with meetings with both local authorities and our Director of Public Health. A move to Level 3 at either next week's review – or earlier if required – has not been ruled out. You can read the full text of the First Minister's statement [here](#).

Grampian figures Today's local figures are shown below. If you are interested in the situation elsewhere in Scotland, click [here](#) to see all the data published by Public Health Scotland.



Flu vaccination/COVID vaccination Please click [here](#) to read the first edition of a newsletter put together by the Scottish Government's Flu vaccination/COVID vaccination programme. It recaps the work being done to get ready for the delivery of a COVID vaccine, once approved and available.

Bonus Payment for Health and Social Care staff The First Minister announced yesterday that a one-off payment of £500 (pro rata for part time staff) will be made to all NHS and social care workers who have been employed since 17 March 2020. Our Payroll colleagues are working with Employers, Staff Side and Scottish Government to work through the detail of this announcement in order to process the payment. A Scottish Government circular is then expected to be published, which will outline the details of the payment. It will be processed as soon as is practicable to do so, and at this point in time it cannot be confirmed whether payment will be processed in December salaries. More information will follow when we are in a position to share the detailed arrangements and a payment timescale.

Urgent care redesign We have been working with the Scottish Government, NHS 24 and the Scottish Ambulance Service since August to develop new ways of delivering urgent care. Following a successful trial in NHS Ayrshire & Arran, all health boards in Scotland are going to implement a flow navigation centre, to directly receive clinical referrals from NHS 24. This 'hub' will offer rapid access to a senior clinical decision maker, who will triage patients and direct them either to Emergency Departments or alternate local services such as Minor Injuries Units. For more on this, click [here](#) to see a video from John Thomson, consultant in Emergency Medicine.

NMAHP bank – now live! The single integrated NMAHP Bank is operational from today, **1 December 2020**. More information on this is available [here](#) (intranet link, networked devices only)

16 Days of Action This is a campaign running from 25 November (International Day for the elimination of Violence against Women) until 10 December (International Human Rights Day) with the aim of highlighting the connection between human rights and domestic violence. This campaign is an important opportunity to raise awareness as we work together in partnership with organisations across the country to ensure women and children are safe from abuse. This year is particularly important given the impact that lockdown and living a more isolated life has brought as a result of the pandemic. The pandemic has affected all aspects of life - and for survivors of domestic abuse, (which includes persistent and controlling behaviour by a partner or ex-partner) it has been an exceptionally difficult time. For domestic abuse victims, lockdown and its aftermath has resulted in increased risk of harm and has also made seeking help more difficult. We want to take this opportunity to highlight the campaign and remind people that support is available if you have concerns about domestic abuse whether it is for colleagues, patients or yourself.

- Free and confidential advice can be sought from the National Domestic Abuse Helpline 0800 027 1234 www.sdafmh.org.uk
- Local advice can be sought from Grampian Women's Aid 01224 593381 www.grampian-womens-aid.com or Rape Crisis Grampian 01224 590932 www.rapecrisisgrampian.co.uk
- NHS Grampian staff can find specific advice for how to address domestic abuse and other forms of gender based violence on the [Public Protection](#) pages of the intranet (networked devices only).

World AIDS Day Today is #WorldAidsDay and this evening Marischal College in Aberdeen will be lit up red in support of this global campaign. Aberdeen has signed up to become a Fast Track City, which aims to end new HIV transmissions, ensure HIV+ people are on effective treatment and to eliminate HIV-related stigma by 2030. How can you help? More information can be found [here](#).

Thought for the day Despite what many of us anticipated (feared?) there has been no change to the Protection Levels currently covering Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire. However, this is no time to be heaving a sigh of relief or patting ourselves on the back. For the third week in a row the First Minister has specifically namechecked both areas in her update. It's tempting to write the growing case numbers off as linked to very specific clusters in food processing or care settings. However, take a look at the Public Health Scotland data we link to each day and you will see the maps of both City and 'Shire dappled with red. It is deeply frustrating for all of us working in health & social care to track this progress. Fundamentally we all (wherever we live – and we note the superior performance of Moray at this time) have to think carefully and act with caution. It comes back to the question we posed last week:

“If you are finding this easy, are you really doing it right?”

And finally...A few of you have been in touch to say you really liked the image shared yesterday, created by artist Emily Hogarth for St Andrew's Day. You can download it for your own use [here](#).

Items for the brief? If you have something you would like to be considered for inclusion in this brief, please send this to gram.communications@nhs.scot. Messages should be clearly marked as 'Daily brief – for consideration'. Please be aware that space is limited, and items are prioritised based on subject matter and relevance to all staff groups.