

Here is the brief for Wednesday 2 March 2022.

**National Radiotherapy plan** A new plan has been published to improve radiotherapy services for cancer patients, with £1.5M invested in specialised treatment. This includes funding to increase the availability of Stereotactic ablative radiotherapy (SABR), a precise form of high dose radiotherapy generally used on small, well-defined tumours, which requires fewer sessions. The treatment limits the impact on surrounding organs to minimise adverse side effects. This treatment is offered at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary and Cabinet Secretary for Health & Social Care Humza Yousaf visited ARI to make the announcement and meet staff.



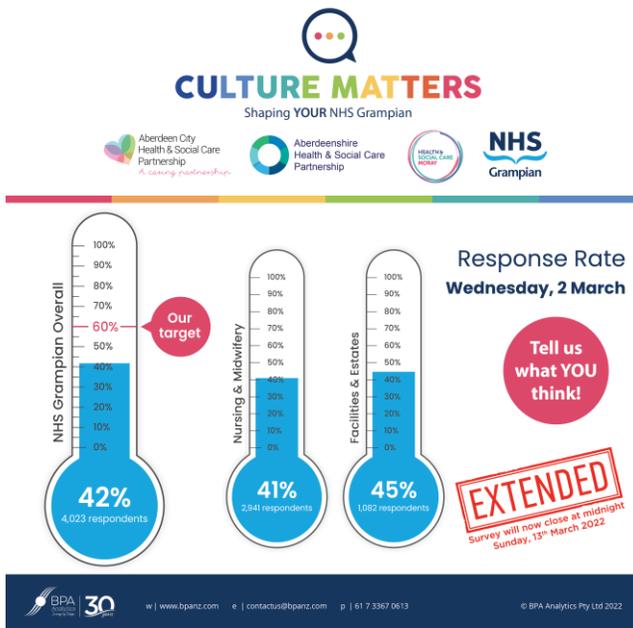
*Mr Yousaf with Megan Fraser-Bell (Senior Radiographer), Nicola Redgwell (Radiotherapy Manager) and Rachel Adam (Therapy Radiographer)*

Dr John McLellan, Head of Radiotherapy Physics at ARI said: "SABR provides so many patients with treatment options that were not technically feasible just a few years ago and the team here in Aberdeen has worked hard to provide this cutting-edge technique for patients across the north-east.

"We're fortunate that consistent funding of radiotherapy equipment in Scotland has furnished our treatment centres with some of the most advanced equipment available. The funding being announced today will allow us to expand our SABR service in Aberdeen, meeting the challenges of ever more complex treatments and an ever-increasing number of patients."

[The Cabinet Secretary also recorded a short video message for staff which you can watch here.](#)

**Culture Matters survey** The latest response rate for this survey is shown below; a huge thank you to everyone who has taken the time to have their say. Remember, the survey deadline has been extended to **Sunday 13 March**. All completed surveys will be entered into a raffle, with 2 x 1 night stays (B&B) at the Maryculter House Hotel among the prizes to be won. This survey is open to all staff working in Nursing & Midwifery and Facilities & Estates. Survey packs have been sent to all teams, please speak to your line manager if you have not received your survey password details.



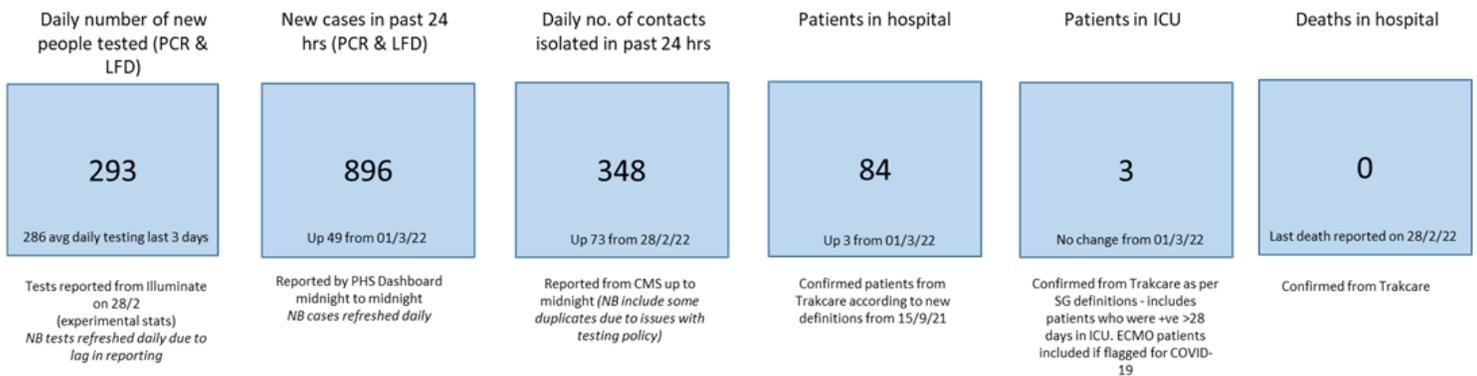
## Reminder - Annual Leave buyback and carry over

*Deadline – 31 March 2022 for Agenda for Change and Executive/Senior Managers and for Medical and Dental staff the last day of their personal 2021/22 leave year.*

As communicated in November 2021, all employees are expected, wherever possible, to take all their accumulated leave by the end of the 2021/22 leave year. However, it is recognised that service demands have meant this has been difficult for some colleagues. The preference remains for managers and staff to work together to ensure all leave is taken, where this is feasible, to support wellbeing by getting rest and recuperation, which managers should both encourage and facilitate. All requests to take annual leave should still be considered to enable staff to rest and recuperate. A local communication, outlining the options (please note the deadlines outlined above) where it is not possible to take the entirety of the accumulated leave due to service demands, is available on the [intranet news pages](#). Please read it carefully to understand how it affects you.

If the option of annual leave buy back is agreed, a maximum of 10 days can be made up of a combination of leave from any of the leave years 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22. If a form is submitted to Payroll for in excess of 10 days, payment will be capped at 10 days.

**Grampian data** The local report is shown below. A complete national report, including the option to view cases at a neighbourhood level, [is available via the Public Health Scotland daily dashboard](#).

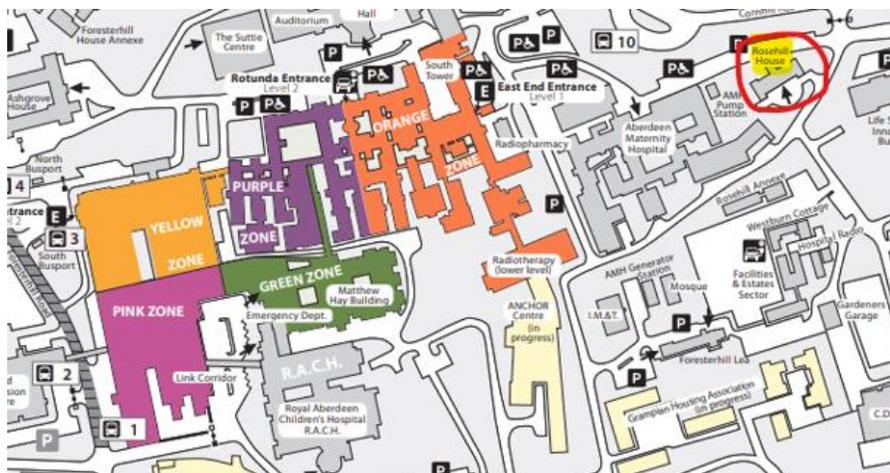


**Paediatric Dietetic Referral Guidance** Thanks to those of you who highlighted an issue with the link we supplied in Monday's brief. This has been resolved and the referral criteria for Paediatric Dietetics is [available on Grampian Guidance \(networked devices only\)](#).

**Reminder - relocation of face fit testing services on Foresterhill Site** Face fit testing of staff on FFP3 masks is currently being carried out in two locations on the Foresterhill Site: Yellow Zone, ARI and MacGillivray Centre, AMH. Both will move to Rosehill House, as follows:

- 7 March – ARI service will move to Rosehill House
- 14 March – AMH service will move to Rosehill House

Rosehill House is circled on the map below, for reference.



**Cyber Scotland Week – Staying Safe at Home** As part of this annual campaign, the eHealth team are posing a number of questions today:

With many of us continuing to work at home, how aware are you of the safety steps to take to protect you and your family?

Hackers are well known to impact businesses but what about your own data?

Could you/your family spot a suspicious email?

Do you know how to protect your home computer devices from malware?

Do you know that NHS Grampian are providing staff with free anti-virus software to be used on home computers?

Visit the link below to find out more! Please do take the time to complete the survey via that link too – your opinion matters?

[February 28 to March 6 2022 is Cyber Security Week - Please follow this link for useful advice on Staying Safe at Work and at Home](#)

### **We Care Wellbeing Wednesday**

- **Menopause café event – Aberdeen** Research suggests that 2 out of 3 women feel completely unprepared for menopause and that 75% transition through the menopause while they are still working? Whether it's happening to you or someone you care about, you can take a moment to increase your knowledge of menopause at the new Meno & Pause Co-Lab/Café, Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership have come together with Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust to organise the event, taking place in Aberdeen on Thursday 17 March. The event takes place at Pittodrie Stadium (Legends Lounge) between 10.30am – 12.30pm, with an optional lunch afterwards. [To register for this free event, click on this link.](#)

- **New Staff Garden, Foresterhill** This opened just before Christmas and can be accessed from the main corridor in ARI (near the Medical Lecture Theatre) or from the corridor leading to the Board room. The landscape design has been inspired by key environmental features such as urban, sea, river & land and mountain. An enormous amount of work has been undertaken to get the garden to this point of opening. The paths, shelter and lighting having been installed and the planting was undertaken by the garden's designer, a small number of amazing NHS Grampian volunteers and James Falconer, the Project Lead.

We encourage all staff to step away from the work environment, during breaks, to enjoy the fresh air in this new green space. The garden was established to help improve the health and wellbeing of staff. As well as being able to take a short relaxing stroll around the garden, staff can also eat at the 'floating fallen tree' table and seating, the groynes at the seaside or on the mountain areas boulders. The email address for information about the garden or fundraising ideas

is: [gram.staffgardenproject@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.staffgardenproject@nhs.scot)

**Call Room marks 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary** The Health Protection team helped celebrate the second birthday of the call room at Summerfield House yesterday – none of the team can quite believe the volume of work they are still dealing with. Without the call room staff efficiently dealing with calls – or directing them to the right person – the Health Protection team would be overwhelmed by the volume of enquiries coming in. The team are indebted to the call room staff, past and present, for supporting them throughout the pandemic, always with professionalism and good humour!

**Tune of the day** Our tune today is ['That's not my name' by The Ting Tings](#), getting a renewed (and much deserved) bit of attention thanks to a TikTok trend (ask your kids...). Enjoy!

If you want to request a song for tune of the day, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot)