

Here is the brief for Wednesday 23 February 2022.

Military Support Since 7 January we have hosted a total of 35 military medics and nursing personnel. They have provided support to a range of teams at ARI, as well as Roxburghe House and Rosewell House. This support will conclude on Friday (25 February).

Executive Nurse Director June Brown said: "The presence of our military colleagues has been incredibly welcome. They display great skill and great compassion and are a credit to their profession. Feedback from both staff and patients has been incredibly positive, they have made an enormous contribution to the smooth running of our services, and it is with a degree of sadness that we bid them farewell. Chief and Lead Nurses in the areas who have benefited from military support are working closely with staff there to ensure a smooth transition."

Scotland's Strategic Framework update Following publication of this document yesterday, we have taken some questions from you and wanted to provide answers as quickly as we can:

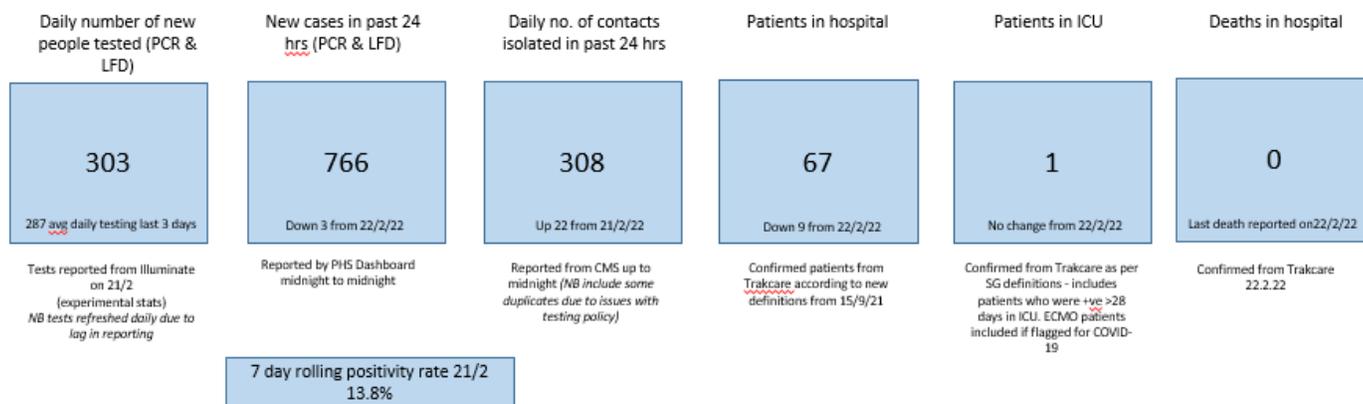
- **Do we still have to self-isolate as confirmed cases/close contacts?** Yes. The Scottish Government have confirmed self-isolation for confirmed cases and close contacts remains part of the Test & Protect strategy here. As you'll be aware, the rules on possible exemption from self-isolation are slightly different for healthcare staff. The flowchart has been updated and attached to the email used to send out this brief. [It has also been added to the COVID-19 staff pages of the NHS Grampian website.](#)
- **The general public are being advised to step back to twice-weekly asymptomatic testing – what about health & social care staff?** The Chief Nursing Officer has written to all boards, advising healthcare staff and patient facing primary care staff (e.g. General Practice, pharmacy, dentists, optometrists) to step back from daily asymptomatic LFD testing to twice weekly testing. [Remember, all results \(positive/negative/void\) must be recorded via the online portal.](#) Daily testing will still be required for those of you wishing to be exempted from self-isolation as a close contact – see the above link to the flow chart.

A review is taking place on the testing guidance for social care staff; **until this is complete those of you working in social care should continue to test before each shift.**

- **Will the removal of the legal requirement to wear masks in certain indoor settings on 21 March also apply to healthcare premises?** We follow the National Infection Prevention & Control Manual guidance, which currently includes use of Fluid Repellent Surgical Masks (and any other PPE as required) in healthcare settings. Any change to this will be shared via this brief; in the meantime, please continue to follow the current guidance.

Estates Helpdesk With immediate effect, all calls to the Estates Helpdesk on 52023 should be restricted to emergency calls **only**. These include failure of the following systems - Power, Water Supply, Heating, Medical Gas, Fire and critical medical equipment such as beds and hoists. All other requests **MUST** be logged via the intranet. [Pages – Logging a call to the Estates Helpdesk \(scot.nhs.uk\)](#)
Thank you for your co-operation.

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](#).



Update on the new terminal illness definition for disability assistance Adult Disability Payment, which replaces Personal Independence Payment (PIP), will launch across Scotland on 29 Aug 2022. This means, where Adult Disability payment is available, Scotland’s new terminal illness definition, based on clinical judgement, will apply to adults (aged 16 to state pension age) who become terminally ill. This moves away from the current DWP time limited ‘6 month’ definition. There will be a pilot phase for new applications; [more information on this is available on the intranet \(networked devices only\)](#).

International Women’s Day 8 March 2022 - #Spacesforinclusion To mark this important date in the equalities calendar, the Staff Equalities Network is keen to understand colleagues’ experiences of women’s equality whilst working in health and care services. To facilitate this, we will be running two special small group sessions of #spacesforinclusion on MS Teams on Tuesday 8 March and invite colleagues to join us to share their experiences with us in a safe and supportive space. You can find out more, including how to book your place, [by visiting the Staff Equalities Website](#) or you can register by emailing gram.staffequalities@nhs.scot.

We Care Wellbeing Wednesday

- The Workforce Specialist Service (WSS) is a national confidential, multidisciplinary mental health treatment service with expertise in treating regulated health and social services professionals. The service specialises in caring for regulated professionals as patients, and as such are experts at the interface between regulation, employment and mental illness and addiction. This is available to all regulated NHS and care staff working as part of the Scottish workforce on a self-referral basis. More information and the steps to self-refer have been attached to the email used to send out this brief.
- SAMH are providing training - Introduction to Suicide Prevention training (ISP) and Introduction to Youth Suicide Prevention (IYSP) - online via Microsoft Teams and free for staff and volunteers across Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire, or Moray. Spaces are limited to 15 attendees per session. Please see below the new training dates. For any questions or requests for a closed training for your staff team(s), please contact NorthEastSuicidePrevention@samh.org.uk

| Date | Time | Training | Eventbrite |
|-------------------|---------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| Wednesday 2 March | 2.30 – 4.30pm | ISP | Click to book |
| Thursday 3 March | 11am – 1pm | ISP | Click to book |
| Tuesday 8 March | 2 – 4pm | IYSP | Click to book |
| Thursday 10 March | 2.30 - 4.30pm | ISP | Click to book |
| Thursday 31 March | 11am – 1pm | IYSP | Click to book |
| Thursday 31 March | 2.30 – 4.30pm | ISP | Click to book |

Tune of the day We go all the way back to 1967 for today's choice; [A Whiter Shade of Pale](#) by Procol Harum. It was confirmed late yesterday that Gary Brooker, lead singer and co-writer of this tune, had died at the age of 76. From the surreal lyrics to the inspiration of Bach's Air on a G String, this song became a firm 60s favourite, selling well over 10 million copies.

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