

Here is the brief for Tuesday 13 April 2021.

**Scottish Government update – new easing of restrictions** As announced earlier today, from Friday (16 April) the Stay Local guidance across Scotland will be lifted, making it possible to travel to other local authority areas for outdoor socialising, recreation, or informal exercise, as well as for essential purposes. In addition, and again from Friday, it will be possible for 6 people from 6 different households to meet outside (children under 12 do not count towards that total). A number of other key dates have also been outlined, as follows:

- 26 April – Scotland to move to Level 3 restrictions. Retail will fully reopen, and pubs, cafes, and restaurants will reopen, subject to certain restrictions. Travel to England and Wales will be possible. Restrictions in Northern Ireland are to be reviewed later this week, and the guidance for travel there will be updated in due course. Travel to other parts of the Common Travel Area (Republic of Ireland, Isle of Man, Channel Islands) is similarly being kept under review.
- 17 May – Expected date for Scotland to move to Level 2 restrictions.
- June 2021 – subject to case numbers remaining at an appropriate level, Scotland will move to Level 1 at the start of the month and to Level 0 towards the end of the month.
- International travel is presently being kept under review with the hope that common rules can be agreed across the four nations of the UK.

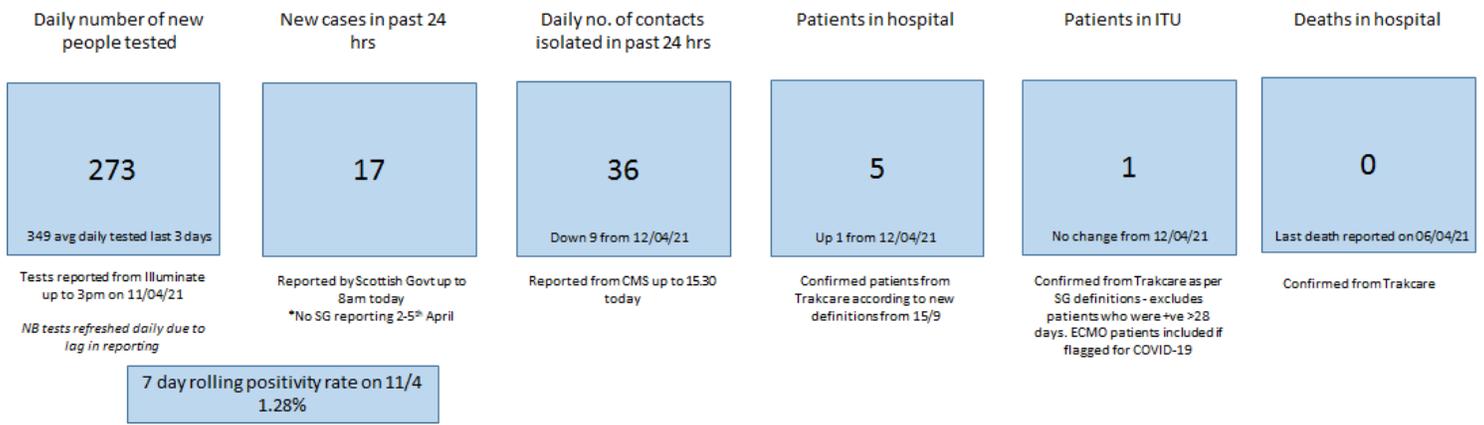
More detailed information on what each level means is available [here](#).

**COVID-19 vaccination – staff programme** The Aberdeen City HSCP Staff Vaccination booking team are currently attempting to contact staff booked for their second dose at P&J Live, between **14 April and 9 May only**. These staff are being contacted to bring forward their second dose from 12 weeks to 8/9 weeks. Unfortunately, despite providing mobile numbers as the best method of contact, calls from the team to rearrange appointments are going unanswered. Please note, calls will appear from a withheld number.

If you are currently booked between these dates and have not been offered an earlier appointment – or had missed calls from a withheld number - please call the Staff Contact Centre on 0345 337 0520 and you will be offered an appointment this week. Please note this is for second dose appointments at P&J Live between the above dates **only**.

**COVID-19 vaccination – public programme** There has been widespread media coverage today of the invitation to people aged 45 and over in England to book their COVID-19 vaccination. As a reminder, the programme in Scotland is slightly different; rather than open for booking, appointments are provided directly to each eligible individual. We will be in contact directly with people in this priority group when we are ready to confirm appointments and they do not need to do anything further.

**Grampian data** The local figures for today and the 7-day rolling positivity rate are shown below. As a reminder, this rate is arrived at by dividing the number of positive tests in the past 7 days by the number of tests carried out in the past 7 days. Repeat tests are included in both categories, whereas the figures we show here only record new tests. If you want to see more detailed information, including cases at neighbourhood level, click [here](#) for the Public Health Scotland daily dashboard.

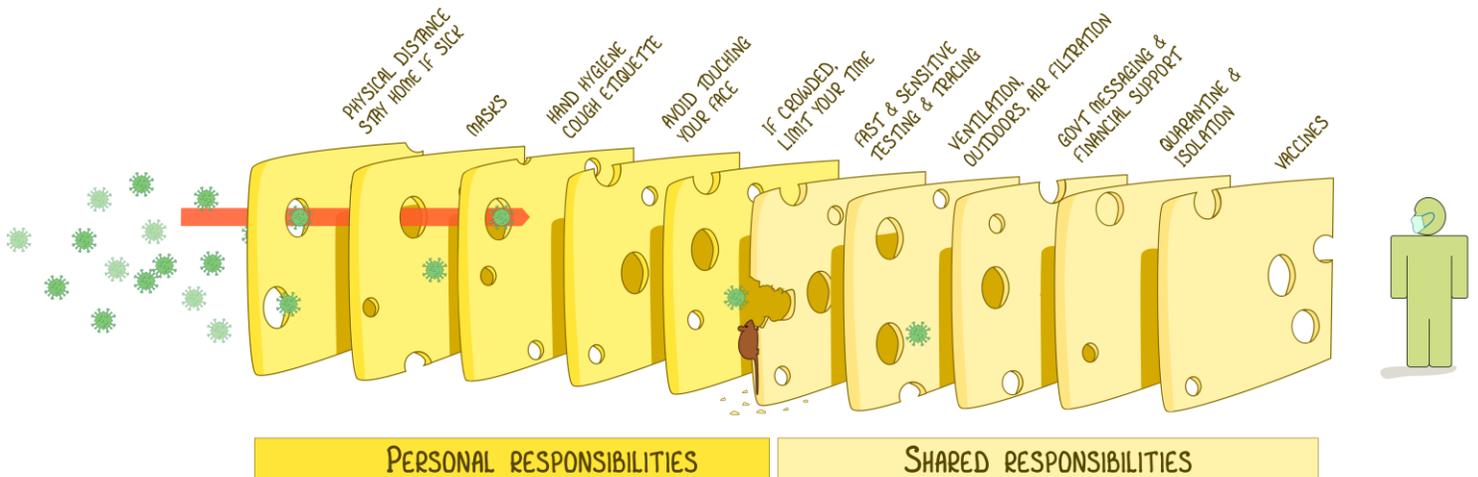


**Adult Public Protection Escalation Policy** The [Adult Public Protection Escalation policy](#) (intranet link, networked devices only) has just been approved for use throughout NHS Grampian. This document sets out when staff and their managers should escalate an adult public protection situation to Senior Management. It does not replace normal processes for reporting public protection concerns but does provide a pathway to highlight particularly concerning or high-risk situations to the relevant senior managers in the organisation. The document will be accessible on Grampian Guidance and will also be on the Public Protection Team's intranet pages. As always, if staff have any queries, they can contact the Public Protection Team via: [gram.publicprotection@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.publicprotection@nhs.scot)

**Thought for the day – what does Swiss cheese have to do with COVID-19?** I was today years old when I learned about the Swiss cheese model. It was a lightbulb moment for me, so I'm sharing it here in the hope that it may be the same for you. Disclaimer – I am not an expert in risk management/mitigation and I apologise if this explanation leaves those of you who are with your head in your hands! The model takes a system – like health & social care – and imagines the various organisational defences as slices of Swiss cheese. Each slice will have holes in it – weaknesses – but these holes will be in different places. By layering different types of defences ('slices') you create something much stronger. So far, so good – but what does this mean when it comes to COVID-19? Well, a picture is worth a thousand words:

## THE SWISS CHEESE RESPIRATORY VIRUS PANDEMIC DEFENCE

RECOGNISING THAT NO SINGLE INTERVENTION IS PERFECT AT PREVENTING SPREAD



EACH INTERVENTION (LAYER) HAS IMPERFECTIONS (HOLES).  
MULTIPLE LAYERS IMPROVE SUCCESS.

As we look to the end of this week and the welcome further easing of restrictions, this diagram is a really helpful reminder of why we need to keep taking precautions, like masks, handwashing, and physical distancing. The more slices of cheese we layer, the better our chance of success against COVID-19

(Image credit - Mackay, Ian M. (2020): The Swiss Cheese Respiratory Virus Defence. figshare. Figure. <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.13082618.v22>)

**Questions to ask? Information to share?** If you have particular questions – or are aware of questions coming from friends and family – please share them with us. We may not be able to answer every question and it may take us time to get a proper answer, but we will endeavour to respond and share the answers. You can get in touch with us via [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot). Please also use that email address if you have items for consideration for future briefs.