

Tuesday 28 March 2023

Industrial Action update As you may be aware, the British Medical Association has indicated plans to ballot junior doctors in Scotland on strike action. We expect the result of this ballot in May. In the meantime, the Short Life Working Group on industrial action continues to meet regularly to discuss the possible impact of any action on our services, and any necessary contingency arrangements. Please be assured we will continue to share updates and information on this with you via the brief.

Respiratory tract infections - which test to use? When choosing a test for cause of viral respiratory tract infection, please remember:

- Symptomatic patients need to be tested with PCR as 1st choice of test
- LFD test results (detected and not detected) must be added to TrakCare – [this picture guide](#) will assist you (networked devices only)

This should be standard practice, in line with both national guidance and local governance.

Note: If LFD (or other non-PCR based test) is positive at any point, a follow up PCR test is required, and Transmission Based Precautions must be implemented.

Shaping The Future for Dr Gray's Hospital At Dr Gray's Hospital, the future is being shaped by a passionate and dedicated team who have been hard at work gathering and analysing insights, to inform the strategic direction for the next ten years. These insights were gathered from Dr Gray's staff, partners, and the public between June 2022 and January 2023. These were gathered through 788 survey responses (hard copy and online) and 20 x 3-hour long workshops, which were well attended by 153 members of Dr Gray's staff and partners. This input was made possible by the commitment and enthusiasm of local staff and people.

All engagement feedback gathered has been analysed and the main themes identified. The feedback and themes were discussed at a workshop attended by local Dr Gray's and NHS Grampian-wide clinical and non-clinical managers in January 2023. From this workshop a high-level vision was agreed for the future of Dr Gray's. This vision was shared with, and approved by, the NHS Grampian Board in February 2023. Since then, collaboration has continued to pull together a high-level implementation plan. This plan will go to the Board for discussion in April 2023.

During this time, we have also been working to pull together engagement feedback reports to share the feedback themes with staff, public and partners. These reports are now ready to share, and we hope that they will clarify what staff, partners, and the public would like from Dr Gray's in the future.

We will be sharing the strategic vision, along with the implementation plan, as it is developed and there is more detail to include. At present, our hope is everyone will get involved to help ensure the details of the implementation plan are coherent and work together to get behind and support the implementation of the plan. The team are excited to move forward with the strategic planning and are enthusiastic about the positive impact it will have on the hospital, staff, partners and the community.

Health & Social Care Moray Chief Officer, Simon Bokor-Ingram said: “We are humbled by the enthusiasm of all those who took part in the engagement process, and we look forward to working together to agree the details of plans and put them into action.”

[Further information and links to the engagement reports are available here.](#)

Retail catering update As we are all well aware, it is getting more expensive to buy food and drink at the supermarket. The same is true for our catering teams. The retail catering team have held off price rises for as long as possible, but there will be increases across all Aroma outlets from Monday 3 April.

However, to protect you, these increases will only apply to patients and visitors, not staff. This means, from Monday 3 April **provided you are wearing uniform and/or a staff badge you will still be charged the old price.** By uniform, we mean NHS Scotland uniform, scrubs, or uniform provided to students on placement by their university/college. By staff badge, we mean NHS or council colleagues working for the Health & Social Care partnerships.

The loyalty card scheme will continue as usual, and there will still be a discount when using a Keep Cup or similar.

Patient catering - making toast to order Offering a quality service and minimising waste are two key goals for the catering team. Historically, the provision of toast to patients has been an area which attracts a lot of complaints, because the current practice of making it in bulk means variety in quality between the top and bottom of the pile. Making toast to order was trialled in two areas at ARI, resulting in higher patient satisfaction, a significant reduction in waste, and crucially individuals were consuming the toast. Every calorie counts when in hospital! Following this trial, all areas will switch to making toast to order and further information will be issued directly to in-patient wards/services.

Reminder – Endowment Fund drop-in If you're keen to learn more about the Endowment Fund or ask questions about the application process, the team are hosting an open event tomorrow (29 March) in the ARI staff rest area (Purple Zone, adjacent to staff garden) from 11am until 4pm. This is the first in a series of planned events where the Endowments team will visit hospital locations across Grampian. Keep your eyes peeled for further location and date announcements which will be shared via this brief.

Tune of the day [When in doubt, Boney M.](#) Happy Tuesday! (EP)

If you want to request a tune, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via gram.communications@nhs.scot