

Core brief

Daily COVID-19 update
(29 May 2020, 3.45pm)

Topics in this Core Brief:

- Life on the Frontline
- Visiting
- Communication Support Apps
- Cycle to Work Scheme
- World No Tobacco Day

Life on the Frontline

In today's Life on the Frontline video Maureen Dale, Senior Charge Nurse, Learning Disability Services talks about making changes to the way she works to make sure her patients stay in touch with their loved ones.



Visiting

To protect our patients and ensure the safety of our staff, visiting was suspended indefinitely from Wednesday 25th of March at midnight. This suspension continues to apply to all hospitals in Greater Glasgow and Clyde. No children are permitted to visit.

As a reminder, suspended visiting applies with the exception of essential visits which are classed as follows:

- One birthing partner who must remain within the maternity area at all times
- Parents of children who are in-patients or attending an outpatient appointment. Parents should remain with their child at all times during the visit
- One person to support someone with a mental health issue such as dementia, a learning disability or autism where not being present would cause the patient to be distressed
- One family member, at any given time, of those receiving end of life care.

Families should be asked to make arrangements for single person visits before attending the hospital, to avoid gatherings outside the ward area/doors.

Communication Support Apps

A range of communication apps are now available to enable patients with communication support needs to use our Person Centred Virtual Visiting service.

Around 600 iPads are being distributed across NHSGGC to help patients communicate with the people who matter most to them during the visiting restrictions.

In addition to real time video calling apps such as FaceTime and Skype, the iPads now include online support for patients who are Deaf, hard of hearing or who speak a language other than English. The apps can also be used to support staff-patient communication.

They include –

Interpreter Now App - for Deaf patients using British Sign Language (BSL)

Contact Scotland – for BSL users who wish to call or receive a call from hearing family member.

Capita App – for patients who do not speak English but who speak another language.

AVA App – for patients with a hearing loss who would normally lip read and cannot because of the use of masks.

Step by step instructions on how to use the apps are available from the [website](#).

For further information on the communication apps, contact Jac.ross@ggc.scot.nhs.uk For more information on Person Centred Virtual visiting, please visit the [website](#) or email virtual.visit@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Cycle to Work Scheme

From 1st June the Board's Cycle to Work scheme will increase the upper limit for bikes and equipment to £4000.

This review was undertaken in response to staff suggestions on how we could provide additional support during this challenging time.

The Cycle to Work scheme means that you can get a bike tax-free, which for most people means they save about 32% of the cost. You can get just about any bike you like from a local bike shop – including e-bikes.

Anne MacPherson, Director of Human Resources & Organisational Development, said,

“With more of our staff using cycles to get around we are pleased to announce this substantial increase in the maximum limit for the Cycle to Work scheme. In addition to being good for our health and the environment, cycling to work is now helping to enable social distancing on our public transport. I would

like to thank the staff member who raised this through our suggestions inbox and to the Staff Health Strategy Group who prompted this review.”

For more information on how to join the scheme, go to [Staffnet](#).

The energy saving trust have an interest free loan scheme for e-bikes that runs over 4 years. For information, go to their [website](#).

World No Tobacco Day - Sunday 31 May

Over 800 people have decided to quit smoking with the help of NHSGGC's Quit Your Way services during lockdown. Ahead of World No Tobacco Day on Sunday, we're encouraging anyone who wants to stop smoking to access our services that provide free information, advice and support, including nicotine replacement therapy or Champix, tablets which reduce nicotine withdrawal symptoms.

Staff are able to refer patients for support via TRAKCARE. People can reach **Quit Your Way** service on **0800 916 8858** or visit **QuitYourWay.scot**

**It is important to share Core Brief with colleagues who do not have access to a computer.
A full archive of printable PDFs are available on [StaffNet](#)**