

Core brief

Daily update

(11 December 2020, 2.20pm)

Topics in this Core Brief:

- Message to all staff from Jeane Freeman MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport

DAILY REMINDER: Social Distancing is Everyone's Responsibility

Please observe furniture arrangement in areas. Do not move chairs and desks that have been positioned to support Social Distancing measures.

MESSAGE TO ALL STAFF, INCLUDING EU AND EEA CITIZENS, WORKING IN NHS SCOTLAND

I want to personally thank each and every person who has been working across the NHS in Scotland during this year. I am deeply grateful for the hard work, commitment and professionalism you have shown at this time of unprecedented challenge. We have asked you to work in unfamiliar settings, and often to learn new skills and take on new roles. Many of you have been personally impacted by the Covid-19 virus and some have had to care for their own families alongside work. This has been and continues to be a tough year for everyone but through it all you have helped and inspired the people of Scotland.

As a thank you for your service and commitment we announced a one-off £500 pro-rata payment for NHS and social care staff which will be paid in this financial year.

EU Settlement Scheme

I now want to speak directly to EU and EEA Citizens working in NHS Scotland. I recognise you have been making your valuable contribution to our health service against a background of uncertainty caused by the UK's departure from the EU. I regret that we are in this position, and want to repeat the message that I have given in previous letters: you are welcome in Scotland and we very much want you to continue to live and work here. You are a vital part of our NHS workforce. I greatly appreciate your contribution not only to our health service but also in our wider communities.

The Transition Period, including free movement of workers, will end on 31 December 2020, and EU citizens who want to continue living and working in Scotland after that date have until 30 June 2021 to apply to the UK Government's EU Settlement Scheme. If you have not already done so, I would encourage you and your families to apply - and to do so as soon as possible. Further details are available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

Most people will find the application process straightforward; it can be done online and is free, but some people may require additional help. The Scottish Government funds third sector partners to provide free support from qualified advisors. The EU Citizens' Support Service can be contacted on 0800 916 9847 . A number of factsheets explaining the rights of EU citizens in Scotland can be found in six languages at www.justcitizens.scot/EU

You may also wish to seek advice and support from either your boards HR Department, trade union or professional body or your Board's Employee Director, who has a role in supporting staff in these circumstances . More information about work to support EU citizens can be found at www.mygov.scot/stayinscotland

Staff Wellbeing

Finally, as Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport, the wellbeing of all health and social care staff is of the highest importance to me, and that is why I am delighted that we launched and expanded the range of psychological and wellbeing support for the workforce, including our National Wellbeing Hub (www.promis.scot) and 24 hour National Helpline (0800 111 4191).

The Hub signposts HSC staff, unpaid carers, volunteers and their families to relevant services, and provides a range of self-care and wellbeing resources designed to support the workforce as they respond to the impact of Covid-19.

The helpline, based in NHS 24, is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to all NHS staff who need further psychological support, including in light of the coronavirus crisis.

The Hub and helpline are elements of a wider programme of work to support the workforce. Other activity includes:

- Expansion of Local Support from Territorial Boards
- Workforce Wellbeing Champions Network
- Digital Resources and Treatments
- Online Coaching Support

More information is available at www.promis.scot.

Throughout this challenging time you continue to deliver first class patient/client care and services. My thanks go to each and every one of you for your professionalism and compassion as you bring your skills and expertise to those you care for.

Please keep up-to-date with the latest guidance on our dedicated web pages at: www.nhsggc.org.uk/covid19. If you have any questions about the current situation please check the [FAQs](#) first. If you have any further questions, please email: staff.covid19@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Staff are reminded to make sure their [personal contact details are up to date on eESS](#).

Are your contact details up-to-date? [Click here](#) to check