

Core brief

Friday 12 August 2016

Introduction

This issue of Core Brief updates staff on the water supply issue at the Royal Alexandra Hospital.

Update on water supply issue at Royal Alexandra Hospital

All services have returned to normal at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, following a water quality issue.

Following round the clock work by NHS and Scottish Water teams the water supply is now running clear through the hospital's taps.

On Wednesday the build up of sediment in the water tanks, resulting from discoloured mains supply, led to our decision not to use the water from the tanks for drinking, bathing and hand hygiene.

The hospital's water tanks have been cleaned out continuously over the last 24 hours with clean water supplied from water tankers, drafted in by Scottish Water.

Tankers will continue to supply tap water to the hospital over the weekend and bottled water will continue to be supplied to patients and staff for drinking. We expect that we will be able to switch back to the mains supply on Monday.

Linda de Caestecker, NHSGGC Director of Public health said: "We wish to thank our staff and patients for their patience and understanding over the last few days. Patient and public safety has been central to all our activities during this water quality issue.

"Once we are satisfied that the mains supply meets the requirements of ourselves and Scottish Water we will reconnect and lift the current tap water drinking restrictions."

Peter Farrer, Scottish Water's Chief Operating Officer, said: "We have been working very closely with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde. We have carried out extensive flushing of the hospital's internal water network, cleaned the internal tanks and carried out extensive sampling and analysis.

"As the hospital returns to normal working, we will continue to monitor the situation going forward, working alongside the health board. We would like to thank all staff, patients and visitors for their patience and understanding while we worked with the hospital and health board to resolve this issue as quickly as possible."

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