

# Core brief

Tuesday, 09 October 2018

## Introduction

This issue brings you news about the Employee Director picking up and award, a family and quiet room at the RAH and Scottish Government info on whistleblowing.

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## Long Service Award

Congratulations go to Dorothy McErlean, Employee Director, who has received a Long Service Award from The College of Podiatry.

To be eligible for a Long Service Award, members must have served: on Council (for a minimum of two terms); as a representative of the organisation (a minimum of 10 years); a branch for a substantial number of years (minimum of 10 years); and a committee of the English regions, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland for a substantial number of years (minimum of 10 years).

Dorothy graduated from the Glasgow School of Chiropody in 1982 and worked as a podiatrist in NHS Ayrshire & Arran and NHS Lanarkshire, before joining NHSGGC in 1997. Dorothy worked in both acute and community settings before taking on her current role.

## Family and quiet rooms unveiled at RAH to bring comfort to families suffering baby loss

Families who are experiencing the tragedy of losing a baby will now be able to spend time in a specially designed family room and quiet room, which have been refurbished at the Royal Alexandra Hospital.

Former Celtic player Kris Commons and his fiancé Lisa Hague, whose baby Lola was stillborn in 2008, helped launch the family room after locally bereaved families fundraised over £30,000 to support the SiMBA charity project. [Click here to read the full release.](#)

## Scottish Government statement on NHS whistleblowing

Health Secretary Jeane Freeman has announced she will personally appoint the whistleblowing champions at Scotland's NHS boards in order to strengthen support for staff with concerns.

Ms Freeman said the champions will be able to directly contact her over issues such as bullying, harassment and quality of performance.

Ms Freeman said: "Our NHS can only flourish when everyone who works in it feels confident they can raise their voice. That they will be free to speak and they will be heard. If there are shortcomings our frontline staff should be the first to see or hear them."

“So let me be clear. If there is anyone in our health service who is feeling bullied or harassed I take that very seriously - and I want you to come forward. But speaking up about bullying or intimidation can be hard to do. You worry that you might be ignored or your concerns dismissed. You worry there might be repercussions on you.

“In recent years we’ve put a number of new steps in place to support staff, But I want to go further.

“I will personally appoint each board’s whistleblowing champion. If any one of these dedicated professionals feels they are not being heard in their boards, they can come straight to me.” [Click here to read our policy on whistleblowing](#)

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