

Core brief

Daily update

(22 January 2021, 4.25pm)

Topics in this Core Brief:

- National visiting guidance for hospital visiting
- Supply and services issues arising due to Brexit
- Review of non-essential training
- Have a heart
- Social distancing signage

National visiting guidance for hospital visiting

We understand the increased anxiety you have when someone close to you is in hospital during the pandemic. Our priority is to ensure the safety of patients, families and staff and help contain the spread of COVID-19. To minimise these risks restricted visiting is in place.

In accordance with the [National Visiting Guidance](#) from Scottish Government all hospitals in NHSGGC are currently placed in Tier 4. This means hospital visiting is for **essential visits only**.

It is essential that as a member of staff you adhere to the visiting guidance that is in place and only visit your family member or friend in hospital if an essential visit has been approved. It is important that the national guidance for hospital visiting is applied fairly and equitably for all concerned.

While these restrictions to visiting remain in place, please use technology such as social media and phone calls to stay in touch. If the people you want to speak to do not have access to their own phone or tablet, please contact virtual.visit@ggc.scot.nhs.uk to access our **Person Centred Virtual Visiting Service**. You will be aware all wards have iPads specially set up to enable 'virtual visits' (video call) allowing you to see and talk to the people who matter to you using FaceTime, Skype or Zoom. Further information about this service is available on our [webpage](#).

If you need to drop off essential belongings to a family member or friend or collect laundry please use the **'Give and Go Service'** while visiting restrictions are in place. More information can be found on the [website](#).

Please remember we are all in this together. Use other communication methods where possible. Be patient – by sticking to the rules we will hopefully get through this quicker.

Supplies and services issues arising due to Brexit

Since the UK exit from the EU on 1 January 2021 a small number of issues relating to changes in supply routes and services have arisen including:

- Disruption to supplies

- Delays in supplies being received
- Customs/import clearance queries
- Requests for EORI numbers (*please note: suppliers who are importing the goods should use their EORI number – the Board's EORI number is only required if GGC are importing the goods directly*)

Any issues regarding changes to the supply of goods or services as a result of Brexit should be sent to the procurement customer services desk who will be able to assist. They can be contacted via email: support@ggcprocurementcustomerservices.zendesk.com or by phone: **0141 211 1200 or 21200**

* Please note that the Customer Services Team will take calls Monday-Friday at the following times: 10.00am - 12.00noon and 2pm - 3pm

Review of non-essential training

To support our staff during the current pandemic response, the Strategic Executive Group have approved that business such as:

- non urgent meetings, conferences and non-essential training should be postponed
- we recommend that appraisal activity is also postponed with the exception of activity that if paused, may be detrimental to formal pay and progression agreements
- non-essential support and mentoring activities for trainee healthcare professionals may be suspended due to lack of capacity
- certain service response times are likely to be affected including internal HR investigations, with the exception of matters with the potential to cause significant risk to patient or staff safety and through discussion with the relevant staff side organisations.

This applies to both clinical and non-clinical staff.

The above arrangements are proposed with effect to **31 March 2021** and are in line with guidance issued in March 2020 - DL (2020)/5 13 March 2020 CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19): NATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR NHS SCOTLAND STAFF.

This position will be subject to regular review.

Have a heart

Last year, during the pandemic, we launched a public appeal for our 'From the heart' campaign. We asked for small, knitted hearts for patients who had died. One was offered to families with the matching one remaining with their deceased family member in the hope it would allow them to feel more connected to their relative. The campaign was well received and we noticed the hearts were also being used for patients in hospitals and residents in care homes and their loved ones not only at end of life but at other challenging times too.

Now, as we are busier than ever before, we are once again asking the public to help. To avoid people delivering them personally to our sites, we are asking for them to be posted to us at JB Russell House and they will be distributed from there. [Click here to read more.](#)

Social distancing signage

A series of social distancing signage is available for all staff to order for their area. [Click here](#) for a list of what signage is available and how to order.

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