

Core brief

**Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive
(26 March 2021, 5.50pm)**

This week has been one for reflection, following the first anniversary of the first COVID-19 lockdown. I was pleased to see our colleagues at the GRI and QEUH standing front and centre outside both hospitals, representing both NHSGGC and NHS Scotland across all news channels, to mark the one minute silence at midday. Thank you to all staff who took part across all of our sites and to those who marked the anniversary at home.

As we know, the COVID vaccine is one of the key ways that we can, together, start to take strides away from the pandemic. As such, I am delighted to share the news that our vaccination team has now not only reached, but moved past, the milestone of half a million doses administered. This is tremendous progress and I am grateful to all members of our staff who are administering and receiving their vaccination. We still have a long way to go, but the light at the end of the tunnel continues to become that little bit brighter.

I am also pleased to report that the roll out of asymptomatic testing for staff is progressing well and planning is now underway to extend this to all remaining healthcare workers. This will start with all NHSGGC employees who are currently required to work on site. Testing will then be offered to those colleagues who are currently shielding but who will be returning to work on site. Staff who are currently working from home will then be given the opportunity to take part. I would encourage all staff to get involved when you have the opportunity to do so, but please remember if you are not eligible yet, you can access asymptomatic testing at one of the many [community facilities](#) in Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

I would like to share with you some lovely feedback from the family of a patient who was in Ward Four at the GRI. The patient's husband took the time to write a letter to the media to thank our staff for the excellent care his wife had received over a four month period and that, despite her eventually passing away, the team continued to stay in touch with the family and provide support.

I realise this type of quality care and support for a patient and their loved ones is quite common, but this letter serves as a reminder of the heartfelt appreciation that family members feel when our staff go above and beyond. To the team in Ward Four at the GRI, I would like to add my thanks to that of this patient's family. Given the additional challenges faced over this period, I very much appreciate you going the extra mile. Thank you.

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