

Core brief

Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive
(01 April 2021, 5.25pm)

Yesterday marked a significant milestone in Scotland's COVID-19 journey with the closure of the NHS Louisa Jordan Hospital. We have been fortunate that, thanks to the commitment of our staff and our ability to be innovative with the treatment we could provide, we have been able to treat our COVID inpatients on our NHSGGC hospital sites rather than utilise the Louisa Jordan for this purpose.

The Louisa Jordan Hospital provided us with an additional site where we, and other Boards, used the facility for a range of services, including diagnostic appointments, research, and training as well as blood donations. However, for us, the main areas of focus for the Louisa Jordan were outpatient appointments and COVID vaccinations.

The ability to transition outpatient appointments to the Louisa Jordan has proved invaluable, not just to the services, but most importantly, to the patients who were able to receive care throughout the pandemic. I would like to thank all of our staff who were involved in making this such a success and to all colleagues within the Louisa Jordan for all their support over the last few months.

I am pleased to note that as of next week, the elements of our vaccination programme which were previously provided at the Louisa Jordan, will have transitioned to their new home on the SECC campus, The Hydro. This means that large scale vaccination clinics for members of the public who are yet to be vaccinated will still be undertaken in that vicinity. I know the team is really looking forward to welcoming more people to their new base and I want to thank them for making this transition to a new venue as smooth as possible. I really appreciate all of your hard work.

I also wanted to share with you that the National Whistleblowing Standards, which form our Once for Scotland Whistleblowing Policy, are effective from today. NHSGGC is fully committed to this and I want to ensure that we, as individuals and as an organisation, understand what is required of us and fully adhere to these procedures.

It is important that any concerns raised about our NHS services are managed through a supportive process which is open, fully accessible to all, impartial and fair. As such, I would encourage all staff to familiarise themselves with the new Standards, details about which can be found on the [HR CONNECT](#) pages of our website.

As you will no doubt be aware, the COVID restrictions will be changing in Scotland from tomorrow, with the 'stay at home' guidance changing to 'stay local'. This means that you will be able to make non-essential journeys within your own local council area. I hope, as I'm sure many of you do, that from Monday we may also see a relaxation of trading restrictions for some non-essential retail, including hairdressers and barbers! However, it is really important that even with the easing of guidelines, we still do all we can to stay safe and avoid the spread of COVID 19. Please remember to maintain social distancing, continue to keep your hands clean and wear a face covering where required.

Finally, for those of you who have the opportunity to enjoy an extended break this weekend, I hope you are able to take some well-deserved rest. For those members of staff who are working, I hope there will be time available for you to, at the very least, enjoy an Easter treat or two while on shift. Thank you for continuing to keep us all safe and well over the next few days.

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