

Core brief

Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive
(21 January 2022, 10.30am)

As staff will have heard this week, the number of COVID-19 cases across Scotland continues to steadily reduce. This is positive news, both for our local communities, but also for health and social care services. While we still face significant challenges across our services, I am encouraged that community numbers are falling consistently, meaning that we should, in the coming days and weeks begin to see this trend mirrored across our services.

However, until such time, I recognise that the pressure faced by all of our staff is significant and I would like to thank you all for your ongoing hard work and commitment to your patients and your colleagues.

I was pleased to see that the Public Health Scotland figures published this week showed our smoking cessation services were the best performing compared to all other Scottish Health Boards. I know that our Quit Your Way services have worked extremely hard to continue to provide stop smoking support to clients during what has continued to be a very challenging time. Like many, the team had to adapt in line with social distancing measures and guidelines and had to streamline processes to ensure that the support provided, as well as the access to stop smoking products, continued throughout the pandemic. My thanks go to the team, the work you are undertaking is of huge importance to improving the health of people living in Greater Glasgow and Clyde. I encourage any staff members who smoke, and would like some help to stop, to please get in touch with your local team so that they can provide you with support.

I would like to draw your attention to a positive piece of media coverage this week about our team at the pharmacy distribution centre. It's really important that we have the opportunity to shine a spotlight on all of our services, so that all of our teams are recognised for the great work that they do. While the press reports centred on the robotic technology used by the team, it was important that we were also able to showcase the level of work undertaken at the centre, including the process to deliver over 100,000 pharmaceutical items for our patients every week. This team is a vital part of providing treatment to our patients and I would like to thank you all for the huge amount of important work that you do. Thank you.

This week, I would like to share some more great feedback that we have received from a member of the public about our staff and the excellent care they continuously provide. The ED team at the RAH has received some lovely words of thanks about the care provided to an elderly patient and her family. Following the digestion of too many steroids and antibiotics, the patient was taken to ED and the family wants to let the team know how grateful they are for the "amazing care", saying the team was "fantastic, efficient, caring, chatty, funny and totally put her at ease", even going that extra mile of offering tea and a sandwich. This really is lovely feedback, so my thanks also go to the team for their commitment to real patient centred care. Well done!

Finally, I will close with a special thank you to five people who are celebrating their 50th year of service. This is a remarkable achievement and shows enormous commitment from each of them. To Alice Breslin working at Stobhill ACH, Janette Ure in our Out of Hours service at Caldedonia House, Kathleen Small working in

Management Accounts at Dykebar, Margaret Loney, at the QEUH and Una Provan, who is a Lead Nurse with Glasgow City HSCP, who is currently on secondment with Unison, an enormous congratulations and thank you. Your commemorative letters and badges have been issued and you should receive them very soon. Thank you.

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