

Monday 1 August 2022

**Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) procedures** There have been several IPC related communications recently and we'd like to remind you of the following timelines:

- The Infection Prevention and Control Standards for Health and Adult Social Care Settings (effective from 16 May 2022, due to be implemented by 8 Aug 2022). The updated standards replace the 2015 versions and include new standards: *Standard 8 Built Environment* and *Standard 9 Acquisition and Provision of Equipment*. These can be accessed here: [Infection prevention and control standards \(healthcareimprovementscotland.org\)](https://www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org)
- The transition to the [National Infection Prevention and Control Manual \(NIPCM\)](#) from the Winter Respiratory Guidance (effective from May 2022 and was due to be embedded from 11 July 2022).

A self-assessment template has been developed to assist teams and is attached to the email used to send out this brief. This is a return to pre-COVID practice of Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs) and Transmission Based Precautions (TBPs), although some pandemic controls remain (for Acute NHS settings including Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS), Dental services and General Practitioners (GPs) can be found in Appendix 21: [Appendix 21 - COVID 19 pandemic measures \(scot.nhs.uk\)](https://www.scot.nhs.uk) This requires removal of the respiratory/non-respiratory pathway and application of SICPs and TBPs. Red, Amber and Green pathways should **not** be in place. Further advice can be obtained via the links above, by emailing [gram.infectioncontrol@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.infectioncontrol@nhs.scot), or for urgent clinical queries, the clinical advice line can be called on extension 53249 between 8.30am-4.30pm.

**Smarter Working** We are pleased to share guidance on introducing hybrid working into your team. This document is aimed at supporting managers and their teams in the move towards hybrid working across NHS Grampian. It describes the basic principles, suggests a timeline, and includes a case study from one of the early adopters. [The document can be found here](#) - scroll down to the guidance section – this is an intranet link, so will only work on networked devices. If you have further queries about smarter working, please email [gram.smarterworking@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.smarterworking@nhs.scot)

**iMatter update** iMatter reports have been delayed until tomorrow (Tuesday 2 August). The action plan deadline is now 12 noon on Tuesday 27 September. When reports are published to managers and teams is when the important part starts: the sharing of your team report by your manager, discussing as a team and with your manager what is important to you, what you as a team can you work together on to improve experiences at work day to day, recognising what is working well and as a team seeing those actions through.

If your team took part in the Culture Matters survey earlier in the year, the actions you committed to as a team following your results may be useful when considering your iMatter Action Plan. The Culture Matters Staff Survey results were distributed to managers and team leaders in Nursing & Midwifery and Facilities & Estates in May

All managers will receive an email in the next 24 hours providing them with the Managers iMatter Brief and an action planning guide with system guidance and tips for action planning, as well as signposting if further help is needed. If you or your team members do not receive your report by close of play tomorrow, please get in touch [gram.imatter@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.imatter@nhs.scot).

**National Care Service** The Scottish Government has put a bill before parliament for the establishment of a National Care Service. A call for views on the legislation is open until Friday 2 September; you can [find out more here](#). If you want a little bit more information or wish to ask any questions, then the Scottish Government is running information events which you can sign up to attend below. Initial feedback from earlier sessions suggests they are both interesting and informative. If you would like to attend, you can register online for the following dates:

- [Tuesday 9 August, 6pm to 7pm](#)
- [Monday 22 August, 10am to 11am](#)

**Scottish Health Awards – have you nominated?** Nominations are now open for the 2022 Scottish Health Awards. This event celebrates the very best people, teams, and services across health & social care. There are 16 categories; [information on who is eligible and how to nominate is available here](#). The awards ceremony will take place in Edinburgh in November. NHS Grampian has a strong record at this event, something we're keen to see continue. Nominations close on Sunday 21 August.

**Free fitness classes for staff – resuming this week!** Monday Zumba and Wednesday aerobics return to the Suttie Centre as of this week. These classes are organised by the Sports Committee, are free of charge, and no booking is required.

Zumba – every Monday in Room 217 of the Suttie Centre, starting at 6.15pm

Aerobics – every Wednesday in Room 217 of the Suttie Centre, starting at 5.30pm

**Pause for Thought** Here's your Monday opportunity for reflection, taken from the questions asked during last week's Guided Journaling sessions. More information on this – and other We Care initiatives – [is available on their dedicated website](#).

*Sometimes we need to stand back to see the way forward. By standing back, what else might you notice? What might this bring, for you and for others?*

**Tune of the day** Thanks to Dougie Cameron, SCN on Ashcroft ward at Inverurie, for today's request. He's asked for [Grace Under Pressure by Elbow](#), and it's dedicated to all the Ashcroft team and the everyone working across Aberdeenshire (EP).

If you want to request a tune, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot)