

Friday 1 September 2023

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**RAAC update** There has been a lot of media coverage of RAAC in the last 24 hours, following the decision not to reopen some schools in England. We appreciate this may be giving you some cause for concern. As we highlighted yesterday, with surveys ongoing, we do not have a complete picture of how much RAAC may be present in our buildings. 54 buildings - or parts of buildings - are being checked, because based on their age and building type there is a possibility that RAAC was used in their construction. The safety of you, patients, and visitors is paramount, and we want to have certainty about whether RAAC is present, hence the surveys. We have made very good progress with these, with just a few buildings in Aberdeen now remaining; thank you again to everyone involved for their support, which has allowed us to move more quickly than initially planned. Formal survey reports will be produced, and we will share more information when we have these, but please be assured, if we are given any initial feedback suggesting action is needed, we will liaise directly with those in the building affected.

**NHS Grampian maternity charter** We have launched a Maternity Charter, developed with the Grampian Maternity Voices Partnership and LATNEM (Let's All Talk North East Mums) along with NHS staff, to ensure people using maternity services across Grampian are aware of their rights and responsibilities. [The charter is available on the Birth in Grampian website](#) along with translations into Arabic, Polish, Romanian and Russian. The charter can be accessed via Badgernet, and has been uploaded to Grampian Guidance under the 'maternity patient information & useful resources' section.

**HEPMA update** The HEPMA roll out across ARI is at the halfway point and well on track to complete at the end of October as planned. A breakdown of current HEPMA activity is attached to the email used to send out today's brief. The key message from the team is to complete the training required to access HEPMA. It's available on Turas here: [North of Scotland HEPMA training courses | Turas | Learn \(nhs.scot\)](#)

**Reminder - pedestrian access to ARI Emergency Department – 2/3 September** To allow for essential works to The Baird Family Hospital **this** weekend (2/3 September) there will be an alternative pedestrian route into the Emergency Department at ARI. The entrance will be manned to direct people accordingly – vehicle access with **not** be affected.

**Open Wide training programme** The Oral Health Promotion Team are running a pilot of an SVQ accredited qualification, in collaboration with NHS Education for Scotland, of the national oral health improvement programme "Open Wide" and are looking for interested, patient-facing, staff at ARI to take part. The training is free, and the team will support you throughout. The accredited training will be completed over an approximate period of 10 weeks. This includes a training session, a summary of achievement, an observation of practice and a SCQF level 5 certificate on completion. Spaces are limited to 10. For more information or to register interest please email [gram.cityohpteamleaders@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.cityohpteamleaders@nhs.scot) before 31 October.

**That was the week that was** We've shared a lot of information this week, here's a quick run through of the highlights

Monday 28 – Change to COVID testing guidance, Space to Talk appointments with chaplaincy

Tuesday 29 – Autumn vaccination programme – dates for City and 'Shire staff clinics

Wednesday 30 – Moray staff vaccination clinics, waste reduction & procurement - survey

Thursday 31 – new COVID variant, Public Holiday dates, nursing opportunities

[All briefs are stored online, just click this link](#) or visit Working with Us/HR Portal/NHSG Staff Daily Briefs on the NHS Grampian website.

**STAR Award** Well done to James Norman, who was presented with a STAR award this week, in recognition of his work with the sports committee, and particularly supporting our participation in the Aberdeen Corporate Games. If you work with an individual or team you think deserves a STAR award, you can [complete the online nomination form](#), or email the details to [gram.staffthanksandrecognition@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.staffthanksandrecognition@nhs.scot)

**Join us in taking part in Cycle September** Cycle September is a fun, free, and friendly biking challenge. You, your friends and co-workers are all invited to take part. The aim is simple - to get more people enjoying the benefits of riding bikes. You can ride anywhere, anytime in September to participate. By logging your bike trips on Love to Ride or by using an app, you can win great prizes, like a £4,000 holiday. Plus, there are even more prizes up for grabs if you encourage other people to get involved, too. So, push those pedals, spread the bike love, and join the movement to get more people riding bikes this September! Join the fun now at [www.lovetoride.net/abz](http://www.lovetoride.net/abz) and remember to add NHS Grampian as your workplace. The site may be badged 'Aberdeen City & Shire' but colleagues in Moray are also eligible, so long as you add NHS Grampian as your workplace.

**Tune of the day** I am nothing if not Captain Obvious, so to play us out this Friday afternoon, here's Earth, Wind, and Fire and [September](#). Thank you for everything you've done this week; if you've got a clear weekend, enjoy it! If you're on shift, take care. We'll be back on Monday (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)