

Tuesday 9 April 2024

Agenda for Change (AfC) 2023 deal – non-pay elements We are continuing to work on the implementation of the three sections of the non-pay elements of the 2023 AfC agreement. We have some updates to share as follows:

- **Reduced Working Week** – as previously stated, teams should discuss how this might work for them, but they should not make any changes to their working pattern at present. However, as the reduced working week officially took effect on 1 April, the hours worked by all Agenda for Change staff (including all part time and all full-time staff) must be clearly and carefully recorded in the systems we use. This will ensure you are paid correctly, and we are recording costs accurately. Guidance for users of SSTS, eEES, Optima Rostering, and JobTrain is attached to the email used to send this brief. **Users of each of these systems must read this and follow the guidance relevant to the system they use. If you have any questions, there is a point of contact listed in each system specific section.**
- **Band 5 nursing review** – some initial information has been shared nationally on the ambitions for ensuring a defined process for a Band 5 nursing review. This is also attached to the email used to send this brief. We would stress the dates suggested are indicative for now and we will share further updates as they become available.
- **Protected learning time** – a local working group is being set up to implement a consistent approach to protected learning time.

The key point we want to underline to everyone reading is this: while you **should not** make changes to your working pattern to reflect the reduced working week, you **should** ensure time worked is being clearly and accurately recorded in systems such as SSTS, as per the attached guidance.

Board meeting The board of NHS Grampian will meet on Thursday (11 April), with infrastructure investment, the joint health protection plan, and the corporate parenting three-year action plan among the items for discussion. All papers are available to read here: [11 April 2024 \(nhsgrampian.org\)](https://www.nhs.uk/news/2024/04/11-april-2024-nhs-grampian)

HCPC registration renewals Members of the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) are required to renew their registration every two years. The registration renewal window is currently open for physiotherapists, closing **30 April**, and dietitians, closing **30 June**. For a full list of professions and their registration renewal dates, please visit the HCPC website here: [When to renew | \(hcpc-uk.org\)](https://www.hcpc-uk.org/when-to-renew)

Renewing your registration with **any** professional body is your responsibility; a lapsed professional registration will impact on your ability to work.

Nursery open mornings NHS Grampian Nurseries would like to invite new and potential parents to join us at our open mornings to have an informal look around the nurseries and our outdoor spaces. Staff will be available to answer any questions you may have. Woodend Nursery will be open from 9.30 - 11am on Saturday 13 April, and Little Acorns Day Nursery will be open from 9.30-11am on Saturday 27 April. We look forward to meeting you on the day.

Grampian Respiratory MCN Professional Conference 2024 The 2024 Grampian Respiratory MCN Professional Conference will take place on Wednesday 1 May at the Aberdeen Altens Hotel. As always, the event will emphasise networking, sharing our challenges and successes, and feature a diverse range of educational talks and interactive workshops. The event costs £35pp, [for the programme and registration please click here](#). If you have any queries, please contact us on gram.mcn@nhs.scot

Retirement mementos If a member of your team is preparing to retire, remember to order their official retirement memento! This contains a certificate, an enamel badge, and a crystal retirement paperweight. [Full details and a link to the request form are available on the intranet here](#) (networked devices only).

Eid al-Fitr Our very best wishes to all colleagues marking Eid al-Fitr and the end of Ramadan this evening. May your Eid be sweet indeed!

Tune of the day Today's tune needs no explanation...! [Can't Stand the Rain](#) (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