

Tuesday 11 April 2023

NHS Scotland Agenda for Change pay award 2023/24 Further information has been provided on the 2023/24 pay award for those of us working under Agenda for Change. [You can view the full letter here](#) – the FAQ is at the end of the document – or for ease, you can share the document attached to the email used to send out this brief.

As a reminder, the award took effect on 1 April 2023. Weekly paid bank workers received their new rate in their pay being paid on 7 April, monthly paid workers will receive it in their April salary, pay day being Friday 28 April onwards. The additional one-off payment will also be paid in April salaries for monthly paid employees, and in weekly pays paid Friday 28 April. Please bear in mind both the salary increases and the additional payment are paid on a pro-rata basis.

Access to patient information Many of us access patient information during our work. Remember, every time we access patient data there must be a clear and legitimate patient care or administrative reason. If you've any doubts about whether it's ok to access patient data, check with your manager and/or Information Governance - gram.infogovernance@nhs.scot. We can and do review/audit access to systems.

Inappropriate accessing of data can have significant negative consequences for our patients, for NHS Grampian, and for you. It can trigger HR, professional regulatory, or even criminal processes. Examples of things we must not do include looking at the medical information of friends and family, neighbours, colleagues, or our own medical records. If you're asked to care for a friend or relative, let your manager know so appropriate steps can be taken.

Public Emergency Alerts – time confirmed The new Public Emergency Alert system, previously highlighted in this brief, will be tested at **3pm on Sunday 23 April**. The alert takes the form of a text message, which will sound a siren when it arrives on your phone. These texts could be sent to anyone, anywhere in the UK. If you support patients or clients who are unable to contextualise the test e.g., due to dementia, other cognitive impairment, or some learning disabilities, you may be concerned the test will cause them to become unduly distressed. If you support individuals experiencing domestic violence, they may be concerned the alert will raise awareness of a secret or secondary phone. Refuge have put together [this short video which shows how the alerts can be disabled](#) on both Android and Apple phones; this has also been shared on the NHS Grampian social media accounts.

National Treatment Centre newsletter Issue 4 of the National Treatment Centre newsletter is out now and available to read on the NHS Grampian website here: [Latest News \(nhsgrampian.org\)](https://www.nhs.uk/news/2023/04/23-nhs-grampian-national-treatment-centre-newsletter)

Return to Practice Information Session for Managers – this Friday All SCNs, Team Leads, Nurse Managers, and Practice Educators are invited to an information session about the Nursing and Midwifery Return to Practice programme in collaboration with Robert Gordon University (RGU). The session will be held by members of the NHS Grampian Return to Practice team and the module co-ordinators from RGU. We will discuss the recruitment process, the course specifics, responsibilities of having a return to practice nurse/midwife, and the benefits of the programme. The session will be held via MS Teams on

Friday 14 April at 2pm. For more information, [please visit the Practice Education intranet page](#) (networked devices only) or email gram.rtp@nhs.scot to book your space

Pause for thought What image do you imagine you portray to the world around you? What knowledge or skills are hidden within you that you might like to share?

Tune of the day Well, have you had your fill of chocolate yet? I hope you all managed some sort of break during the holiday weekend. I was in Dublin for a few days and saw this sticker on a lamppost:



Words to live by! Our tune for today is [Who is He? \(And what is he to you?\)](#) by Bill Withers, just because (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