

# Core brief

Friday, 08 March 2019

## Introduction

This issue details a HIS inspection report on the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, the Institute of Neurosciences and the Royal Hospital for Children.

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## HIS inspection report on Queen Elizabeth University Hospital and Royal Hospital for Children

Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) carried out an unannounced inspection at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, the Royal Hospital for Children and the Institute of Neurosciences on 29 - 31 of January 2019. The report of the visit is published today. Please find below the HIS press release which contains a link to the report and following that our response to the report.

### HIS PRESS RELEASE

Healthcare Improvement Scotland today, (Friday, 8th of March), published its report relating to an unannounced safety and cleanliness inspection visit to Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, (QEUH), NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

The unannounced inspection was carried out at the request of the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing to the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, the Royal Hospital for Children and the Institute of Neurosciences, from Tuesday the 29th to Thursday the 31st of January 2019, and will help to inform the Scottish Government's wider independent review into QEUH.

Our inspection team inspected 27 wards throughout the main Queen Elizabeth University Hospital building, the Royal Hospital for Children and the Institute of Neurological Sciences.

Speaking of the report, Alastair Delaney, Director of Quality Assurance, Healthcare Improvement Scotland, said: "Inspectors found areas of good practice in relation to infection control. However, there were also areas of concern, such as developing a strategy to ensure the hospital environment and patient equipment in the emergency department is clean and ready for use, and that any estates and facilities issues around repairs and maintenance are carried out to ensure infection prevention and control can be maintained.

"Following our inspection, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde have developed an action plan and must address the areas which require improvement as a matter of priority."

[The full inspection report is available to view here](#)

## NHSGGC RESPONSE

Jane Grant, Chief Executive, said: “I welcome today’s report from Healthcare Improvement Scotland into the recent inspection of the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital and the Royal Hospital for Children. The report contains a number of positive findings, including good staff awareness of infection control and high levels of hand hygiene compliance. The inspectors have also confirmed that infection rates are within acceptable levels.

“The report has, however, highlighted a number of areas that we need to address. Work is already underway to action the requirements and recommendation that Healthcare Improvement Scotland have identified.

“Patients should be assured that the prevention and control of infection has always been, and remains, a top priority for NHSGGC.

“Infection rates in the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital and the Royal Hospital for Children are low – lower than the average rate of infection in Scotland’s hospitals.

“For further reassurance on infection control we asked Health Protection Scotland to carry out a detailed review of our infection performance compared to similar large hospitals over the past three years. Their findings confirmed that at no time during this period did infection rates at QEUH and RHC exceed expected levels.

“Our highly dedicated staff are committed to quality care and patient safety and we are determined to ensure that our hospitals are clean and as safe as they can be for our patients.”

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