

# Core brief

**Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive  
(17 June 2020, 7.30am)**

The response by our staff to the immense challenges that 2020 have brought us has been inspiring.

One team which has shown energy and enthusiasm from the very beginning is our colleagues in Virology. From as early as February, they set about establishing a testing regime, which has now grown ten-fold in three months. This took huge effort and meant the team had to adapt to different ways of working and longer hours.

As well as processing results for our own patients, they have assisted other Boards - with a total of 84,000 tests being carried out to date. Due to their commitment, our testing capacity has been able to meet demand at every stage of the pandemic.

I also want to extend my warmest thanks to the leadership team within the West of Scotland Specialist Virology Centre who have co-ordinated this seven day-a-week service.

Understandably, another team which has dealt admirably with an increased workload is our Mortuary Team.

They worked with Council colleagues to create additional capacity and ensured that we never ran out of mortuary space. As well as this they helped establish the mortuary facilities at NHS Louisa Jordan.

Thanks to their hard work and professionalism, patients who had sadly died were afforded the same dignity and respect as ever.

My thanks to you all for your continued dedication to your job and our patients.