

Core brief

**Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive
(30 October 2020, 2.25pm)**

The NHSGGC Board met on Tuesday and a Core Brief with some detail about the main issues that were discussed was shared with you earlier today. As ever, the Board meeting is a very useful opportunity to discuss our key objectives, which this week included the remobilisation of services and our response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am very sorry to report that the number of people being treated for COVID in our hospitals, has been greater this week than it was at the height of the pandemic earlier this year. In recent weeks, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde has seen the largest number of cases in Scotland and this brings with it significant issues for our front line staff. I want to thank you all for your tremendous efforts in these challenging times.

In these circumstances, it remains vital that we continue to support one another. We also need to remember the COVID guidelines about physical distancing, wearing a face covering and washing your hands regularly at all times. I recognise that this is a difficult time for everyone and I am grateful to our staff for continuing to provide excellent clinical care to our patients and vital support to their loved ones.

As you will have seen, earlier this week, NHSGGC issued a formal apology to members of the public about the management of the adult flu vaccination programme. Understandably, patients are worried about the changes in the flu vaccination programme and making sure they receive their vaccination ahead of the flu season starting in December.

I am very conscious that the members of the public who are eligible for the vaccination include some of the most vulnerable in our society and we must, as their Health Board, do all we can to support them and provide swift access to vital services. I am very sorry for the distress that has been caused and I am committed to making sure that we learn lessons from what has been a particularly challenging programme and ensure that the problems we have faced are not repeated.

I want to thank our teams who are working tirelessly to staff the flu appointments line, as well as those of you who have been hard at work in recent weeks administering the vaccinations and working to support the programme; your efforts are significant and very much appreciated. I have heard some of the hugely positive feedback you have received from members of the public whose appointments have been rearranged or who have visited the vaccination centres and I would like to thank you all for your commitment to not just the programme, but to the local communities we serve.

In ending, I just want to personally thank you all for your commitment and hard work which I, and the whole corporate management team, truly appreciate.

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