

# Core brief

**Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive  
(10 December 2020, 4.05pm)**

Tuesday was a momentous day. I am delighted that we have started rolling out our COVID-19 vaccination programme, joining Health Care teams from across our four nations to deliver, what we all hope, will be the beginning of the end for this virus.

Since Tuesday, 300 people from NHSGGC, made up of our vaccinators, front line and care home staff literally rolled up their sleeves in support of the programme and were among the first people in the UK to be vaccinated. A further 2400 appointments are planned for the next three days.

I would personally like to thank each of our staff members who have taken the opportunity to be vaccinated. As you may have seen from the media, one of our bank nurses, Paula McMahon was the first of us in NHSGGC to receive the vaccine, so a special thanks to Paula for leading the way.

Some further positive news came from the Scottish Intensive Care Society Group, in the form of their annual audit, which showed that treatment for patients most severely affected by COVID-19 has improved during the second wave in comparison to the first.

While we have more people being admitted into our hospital now than we did in the first wave, our ability to treat them with non-invasive ventilation has risen from 17% to 44%. Likewise, there has been a corresponding reduction in the use of advanced respiratory support, which is down from 64% in wave one to 43% in wave two.

While I appreciate that significant challenges remain, I feel that due, in part, to our improved knowledge of COVID, as well as therapeutics and treatment for those most impacted, we are able to deliver better outcomes for our patients. I would like to thank all of you working in ICU and HDU as without your knowledge and hard work, we wouldn't have seen such a shift change. Our next Life in the Front Line staff video gives the perspective of one of our Critical Care Consultants based at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Dr Bob Docking. This insightful account really brings the situation to life and you can watch it [here](#).

Despite this positive news, I realise that due to the intensity of this virus, COVID fatigue among staff is a very real. I also understand why many of you are extremely keen to be vaccinated as soon as possible. I would like to reassure you that as the supply of vaccine increases, we will increase the number of clinics available to all those eligible in the first wave of vaccinations. Our roll-out will be done in line with the national vaccination programme, but please rest assured that we will do everything possible to reach everyone as soon as we are able, so I ask for your patience and your support to the vaccination team.

To all of our staff, whether you are working at one of our sites or remotely from home, please accept my sincere thanks and gratitude for all you are doing. As we near the end of one of the most challenging years we have ever experienced, let us all try and remain positive in the hope that next year now has a much more positive outlook.

Finally, the Scottish Health Awards took place last night. I am extremely proud to tell you that our staff won awards in five of the categories.

Dr Mun Woo, Associate Specialist in the Renal Unit at the IRH was awarded the People's Choice Award; Dr Pauline Grose, one of our Consultant Acute Physicians at the GRI received the Doctor Award; The Allied Health Professional (AHP) Award was won by Alex Kane, a Highly Specialist Physiotherapist and Practice Development Physiotherapist based at the West Centre in Drumchapel; The Innovation Award was received by our vCreate COVID-19 Project Team and the winner of the Volunteer Award was Glasgow Recovery Communities.

Congratulations to all of our nominees and our very worthy winners. I am delighted for you all. Well done!

**It is important to share Core Brief with colleagues who do not have access to a computer.  
A full archive of printable PDFs are available on [StaffNet](#)**