

Core brief

Daily update

(31 December 2020, 3.05pm)

Topics in this Core Brief:

- COVID vaccination programme – January 2021
- Message from Anne MacPherson, Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development - Brexit
- New Chief Executive of NHSScotland and Director General for Health and Social Care
- Happy New Year from Corporate Communications

DAILY REMINDER: Don't Spread the Virus at Work or Home

Cover your mouth and nose when you sneeze. Use a tissue or sneeze into your elbow to keep your hands as clean as possible. Wash your hands carefully after you sneeze or cough, regardless.

COVID vaccination programme – January 2021

Following the change in national guidance we are now in a position to offer all staff in Priority 2 groups the opportunity for the COVID vaccination. Priority 2 staff are:

Patient facing, frontline healthcare workers.

Staff who have frequent face-to-face clinical contact with patients and who are directly involved in patient care in either secondary or primary care/community settings.

Non-clinical but patient facing staff in secondary or primary care/community healthcare settings.

This includes non-clinical ancillary staff who may have social contact with patients but are not directly involved in patient care. This group includes receptionists, ward clerks, porters and domestics.

Laboratory and pathology staff

Hospital-based laboratory and mortuary staff who frequently handle SARS-CoV-2 or collect or handle potentially infected specimens.

Social care staff directly involved in the care of their service users and others involved directly in delivering social care such that they and vulnerable patients/clients are at increased risk of exposure

This includes, for example, workers in residential care for adults and children, supported housing, and also personal assistants and social workers who have face-to-face contact in the course of their duties including child, adult, mental health officer duties and public protection.

In Greater Glasgow and Clyde we estimate that this is approximately **71,000 staff** and we are also vaccinating all older adults in care homes and their staff and those over 80 living in the community, this is a further **64,000** people.

Based on current delivery schedules for vaccine the programme for first doses will take until 7 February.

There are currently 31,600 appointments set up already and the remainder will be set up next week so that everyone can get an appointment booked.

More clinics and increased appointments will be set up next week and will be available in a range of sites and we would ask that appointments are phased over the month.

In prioritising within your workforce over the next four weeks you might want to refer to the JCVI guidance <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/priority-groups-for-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-advice-from-the-jcvi-30-december-2020/joint-committee-on-vaccination-and-immunisation-advice-on-priority-groups-for-covid-19-vaccination-30-december-2020>

The JCVI advise that frontline health and social care workers at high risk of acquiring infection, at high individual risk of developing serious disease, or at risk of transmitting infection to multiple vulnerable persons or other staff in a healthcare environment, are considered of higher priority for vaccination than those at lower risk.

Thank you for your ongoing assistance in planning such a complex task.

Message from Anne MacPherson, Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development

As you are aware, today (31 December) the UK leaves the European Union. Whilst a trade deal has been agreed, its full implications for NHSGGC may take some time to become fully clear.

The UK Government has indicated that the country should prepare for a level of disruption over the next few months.

Within NHSGGC, a Brexit Steering Group has been established for some time, with input from a number of key stakeholders. We have put in place plans to protect the services we provide, and have built in contingencies in an effort to minimise problems during that time. We will continue to monitor developments so we can address any issues that arise.

We have been working to support our many staff from around the EU to ensure they can continue to live and work in Scotland. Whilst the deadline to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme is some way off – 30 June 2021 – we encourage anyone who has not yet started the application process to do so as soon as possible. If you are not sure what to do, or are having trouble with your application, please speak to your line manager in the first instance, or look at the information we have [on HR Connect](#).

Our colleagues from across Europe are an essential part of the NHSGGC team, and we will continue to recruit from the EU after 31 December 2020. From 1 January 2021 anyone applying for a post will require a Skilled Worker Visa. Our recruitment teams will be able to advise on the process.

We recognise that there will be a degree of uncertainty over the coming weeks and months as Brexit beds in, but we will do our best to help as much as we possibly can.

And finally...

Your Corporate Communications team would like to take this opportunity wish you all a very happy, healthy and safe New Year.

Please keep up-to-date with the latest guidance on our dedicated web pages at: www.nhsggc.org.uk/covid19. If you have any questions about the current situation please check the [FAQs](#) first. If you have any further questions, please email: staff.covid19@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Staff are reminded to make sure their [personal contact details are up to date on eESS](#).

Are your contact details up-to-date? [Click here](#) to check