

REPORT TO ABERDEENSHIRE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD (IJB) 10 MAY 2023

CHIEF OFFICER'S UPDATE

Thank You to Staff

As requested at its last meeting a letter has been cascaded to staff on behalf of the IJB outlining the IJB's gratitude to staff for their continued commitment to deliver excellent care and support under intense pressure.

National Care Service (NCS)

On 17 April 2023 it was confirmed that Scottish Ministers were asking for a further extension to the Scottish Parliament's consideration of the NCS Bill (Stage 1) until after summer. The letter from the Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport to the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee is available on the Scottish Parliament website: [National Care Service Bill Timetable | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

In doing this the Scottish Government noted that its aim is for the new NCS to ensure consistently high standards of care across the country and that any additional time that the Scottish Parliament provides will be used to develop a stronger agreement for these proposals and give time to consider some of the issues that some stakeholders have raised.

The communication confirmed that the Scottish Government remains committed to delivering a NCS and by talking to those with lived experience, workforce, unions and local government, the Scottish Government is looking to ensure the NCS is as effective as it can be. Over the summer the Scottish Government will continue to speak with those using and delivering services through its co-design programme.

Community Hospitals

There are 9 Community Hospitals located across North, Central and South Aberdeenshire.

Each hospital hosts a suite of services. The details below reflect the position as at **26 April 2023**:

North Aberdeenshire			
Hospitals	Chalmers Hospital, Banff	Peterhead	Fraserburgh
Wards	General Ward, 20 beds	Summers Ward, 18 beds (currently 9 open whilst ward has temporarily re-located to Fraserburgh. Number of beds will gradually increase to 15)	Philorth Ward, 20 beds Brucklay Ward (dementia), 12 beds
Surge beds	0	2	0
Outpatient Clinics	Yes	Yes	Yes
Minor Injury Unit	Yes	Yes	Yes
Comments		Ward currently relocated due to discovery of legionella bacteria. Investigations ongoing into building works required	Long standing issues with underfloor plumbing

Central Aberdeenshire		
Hospitals	Inverurie Hospital	Turriff Hospital
Wards	Donbank Ward, 18 beds Ashcroft Ward (dementia), 10 beds	General Ward, 14 beds (12 open)
Surge beds	0	2
Outpatient Clinics	Yes	Yes
Minor Injury Unit	No	Yes
Comments	Shower trays and toilets not incompatible with health and safety standards. Continuing issues with roof leaking into day case room	Undergoing a deep clean and water testing before the Deveron Suite and adjoining room become operational in mid-May increasing bed numbers to 14

South Aberdeenshire				
Hospitals	Aboyne Hospital	Kincardine community Hospital, Stonehaven	Glen O Dee Hospital, Banchory	Jubilee Hospital, Huntly
Wards	General Ward, 14 beds	Arduthie Ward, 18 beds	Morven Ward, 18 beds (16 open) Scolty Ward (dementia), 12 beds, temporarily closed	Rothieden Ward, 18 beds, temporarily closed for improvement works
Surge beds	0	1	2	0
Outpatient Clinics	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Minor Injury Unit	Temporarily closed	Temporarily closed	No	Yes

Temporarily closed hospital wards

Ward	Number of closed beds	Comments
Rothieden	18	Closed for refurbishment, estimated completion date of October 2023
Scolty	12	No date set for reopening
Summers	18	Ward has moved to Kinnaird Ward at Fraserburgh Hospital with 9 beds open, gradually increasing to 15

Minor Injury Units

There are 3 main minor injury units in Aberdeenshire, offering a 24/7 scheduled appointment based service with a mix of minor injury and treatment room services. Units are at the hospitals in Fraserburgh, Peterhead and Huntly.

There are 2 satellite units that are operational on a limited capacity

Location	Comments
Banff	Offers both minor injury and Community Treatment and Care (CTAC) appointments
Turriff	The minor injury staff are integrated in the ward

Vacancies

As of the end of March 2023, there were 17.1 whole time equivalent (WTE) vacancies across Aberdeenshire community hospital wards.

Band 6 – Senior Staff Nurse	0.9 WTE
Band 5 – Staff Nurse	8.7 WTE
Band 3 – Health Care Support Worker	4.5 WTE
Band 2 – Health Care Support Worker	3 WTE

Bank usage

From 1 to 31 March 2023, 766 bank shifts were requested across the community hospitals.

563 were filled and 203 were not. These shifts were a mixture of band 5 staff nurse and band 2 health care support workers.

From 1 to 31 March 2023 there were 88 nurse agency shifts requested across the community hospitals.

34 of those shifts were filled by agency nurses and 54 shifts went unfilled.

Balhousie Huntly Care Home

We have, for some time now, been supporting Balhousie Huntly Care Home and following concerns raised by the Care Inspectorate and subsequent court action, we have now taken over the operation of the home.

The Partnership officially took over operation of the home from 8am on Friday 14th April. Many of the current staff at the home have TUPE'd over to council or NHS Grampian employment which is providing much needed stability and consistency for residents at the home.

We are in the enviable position of currently being able to support the clinical staffing within in the home with our fantastic team from Rothieden Ward at Jubilee Hospital. This team will be able to continue to support until the replacement roof at Rothieden is completed and we are ready to reopen to patients. We are also immensely grateful to Isla Cowe from Allachburn Care Home in Aboyne and Amanda Rennie from Edenholme Care Home in Stonehaven, two of our most experienced Care Home Managers who have been working in the home.

In addition to those we have mentioned above I would like to thank the leadership shown by Janine Howie and the incredible support we have had from our local HSCP team under the leadership of Fiona Lovie along with a host of other teams including Legal, HR, Procurement and Commissioning, NHS Grampian's Catering and Domestic Teams and of course our own Care Home Nurses under the leadership of Janine Blease. This has been a team effort all round however special mention should also be made of Stephanie Duguid, Kimberley Forsyth, Mhairi Roper and Jackie Duncan. I am profoundly grateful for the priority and support colleagues across services have given.

It is our intention to work with commissioning and procurement colleagues to find a new operator for the home in the coming months but until such time as we can hand over to a new provider, we will maintain responsibility for the Home and its residents.

Fyvie Oldmeldrum Medical Group & Inverurie Medical Practice

As you will already be aware the partners at Inverurie will continue to deliver general medical services until their contract concludes on 7th September 2023. This will mean that there will be little or no change to how patients access care for the foreseeable future and there is no suggestion that patients will at any point not receive these services.

We are currently working with the partners and the contracts team to look at whether there might be any interest from other GP partnerships to take on the Inverurie contract (or indeed the contracts for any of our 2C practices) At this stage we have asked for notes of interest ahead of a potential tendering process.

We are looking at every possible option on how we continue to deliver general medical services to the Inverurie population and as part of that we are investigating how we might look to new models which would look to how we deliver Primary Care services now and into the future. This may also be an opportunity to look at how we deliver high quality care and support through the Primary Care Improvement Plan and the requirements of the GMS contract. (GP contract 2018)

We have also recently taken on the running of the Fyvie/Oldmeldrum Medical Practice (17.04.23) Many of the practice and medical staff at the practice have TUPEd over to work for us and we are moving forward with positivity. We are in the process of writing to all practice patients to update them that the Partnership have now formally taken over the management of the practice.

Fyvie/Oldmeldrum is our 5th 2C (managed by the AHSCP) and joins Aden (Mintlaw), Saltoun (Fraserburgh), Central Buchan and An Caorann (Portsoy and Aberchirder) under the Partnership's management.

Pam Milliken
Chief Officer
Aberdeenshire Health & Social Care Partnership