



Update for key stakeholders

1 July 2022

Vaccination

As of 29 June we had 87.6 % take-up of spring booster COVID vaccinations (4th dose) for over 75s across the NHS Highland area. This is made up of 91.7% in Argyll and Bute and 85.8% in Highland. We remain on a trajectory to complete the campaign within the required time.

Vaccination clinics continue to be updated regularly in the local press, on social media and on our [website](#). Anyone who receives an appointment invitation and needs to change the location or date can call our local Vaccination Enquiry Hub on 08000 320 339.

You can view all vaccination information and other COVID data on the [Public Health Scotland COVID dashboard](#).

Maternity and Neonatal redesign – Moray networked model

As requested by Cabinet Secretary for Health and Care Humza Yousaf, NHS Highland has been working alongside NHS Grampian to develop a draft high-level plan for implementation of Model 4 of the Moray Maternity Review, which was to allow parents in Moray the choice of giving birth at Raigmore in Inverness. This draft high-level plan is now complete and has been developed collaboratively with NHS Grampian to ensure integrated planning for the women of Moray who may choose Raigmore and will be submitted on Friday, 1st of July. This draft plan covers indicative timelines and risks to implementation. This is a subset of all the planning work that has been completed to date and is an important milestone in our planning.

The draft high-level plan sets out a timescale that aims to allow women in Moray to choose Raigmore as a place of birth by December 2023. This is dependent on a number of factors, including adequate recruitment and a capital programme to improve and extend facilities.

As you are aware NHS Highland had consistently made clear that any expansion in the numbers of women and families using maternity and neonatal services at Raigmore would take a minimum of two years from when the review was published in December 2021, and the timescales would be informed through the detailed planning work to ensure both the staffing and the facilities are in place. The safety and well-being of women, families and the workforce will always be at the forefront of our transition.

Over the past five weeks, since the accelerated planning workshop we held with over 40 members of the maternity, neonatal and support teams attending, we have been working together to create our draft business case to support investment that will increase our workforce and refurbish our maternity and neonatal unit. This process is well underway: a draft of this business case has been

developed that we will continue to work collaboratively to shape. Once finalised we will follow our governance processes within NHS Highland to get full sign-off. This full business case has to be submitted by the end of the summer.

NHS Grampian has produced a briefing on the draft plan, which is attached to this email for reference.

Community midwifery in Skye

The Community Midwifery unit (CMU) at Broadford Hospital on Skye is experiencing unexpected short-term staff absences. Combined with the ongoing open vacancies, to which we are actively recruiting, this means that there will be no midwife cover out of hours and some days with no midwife cover during the day. Pregnant women are being advised to attend Raigmore if necessary. All women currently receiving care from this team have been informed.

Support from the Wester Ross midwife team and a maternity care assistant will help to cover in-hours appointments. The maternity team at Raigmore are available for phone support and triage, and the Scottish Ambulance Service and the Emergency Department at Broadford Hospital are aware and will offer support as necessary. This situation is likely to be resolved in the next two weeks and we will keep you informed of any developments.

Feedback

If you have comments or queries please contact nshighland.feedback@nhs.scot