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Elected Members Update   
for local MPs, MSPs and Councillors

This update is part of our on-going commitment to keep elected members informed of the latest developments at NHS Fife that may be of interest to you and your constituents.

We would also encourage you to regularly visit and refer your constituents for the latest news and updates from NHS Fife on our [**website**](http://www.nhsfife.org): or follow us on our social media channels.

Enquiries

To ensure accurate and timely responses from NHS Fife, all enquiries from elected members should be directed to the NHS Fife Chief Executive Office for response and co-ordination at [fife.chiefexecutive@nhs.scot](mailto:fife.chiefexecutive@nhs.scot). Members are politely reminded not to approach services or individual members of staff directly for responses.

Main updates

National treatment centre opening to patients

Our new National Treatment Centre – Fife Orthopaedics is scheduled to welcome its first patients on Monday the 20th of March, subject to NHS Assure. Initial appointments have been issued and staff are looking forward to receiving the first patients later this month, with an official formal opening to be confirmed in due course. The state-of-the-art facility will provide outpatient, inpatients, and short-stay ward areas, as well as a three-theatre surgical complex. More information on the National Treatment Centre can be found [here](http://www.nhsfife.org/ntc).

NHS Fife lifechangers

As part of or ongoing efforts to support recruitment, we have commenced a third series of our NHS Fife Lifechanger social media campaign. The campaign profiles staff from across the organisation to position NHS Fife as an attractive, innovative, and supportive employer, which provides an important work-life balance. The campaign has been well received and garnered significant engagement, with the latest series being viewed over 175,000 times since its launch on the 17th of February. An example of the campaign can be found [here](https://www.facebook.com/nhsfife/posts/pfbid02yrhzPFp1whTaZnhhp6BBy9KyDoj6U2JqmSreDwhd2i9nAZiJLSqXCAvZtQVqqYr5l).

Specialist bladder and bowel nurse appointed to national forum

Specialist bladder and bowel nurse, Lisa Jones, has been appointed bladder and bowel link nurse by the Royal College of Nursing. Lisa, who has more than a decade of experience in caring for older adults in community wards, specialising in dementia care, takes up her role on the Bowel Forum. The forum is aimed at improving outcomes for all people experiencing bladder and bowel dysfunction.

Volunteers required for local pharmacy committee

We are looking for volunteers to join the Pharmacy Practices Committee. The committee considers applications for new community pharmacy contracts and public representatives are being sought to offer an additional perspective. More information on the role and its responsibilities can be viewed [here](http://www.nhsfife.org/get-involved/communityempowerment).

Women’s swimming club established for mental health patients in Kirkcaldy

Lia Robinson and Megan Crombie wanted to see more being done for women’s mental

Our community mental health team have started a women’s swimming club in Kirkcaldy.

Lia Robinson and Megan Crombie are the driving force behind the initiative, which started earlier this month and runs throughout March. Run in partnership with Wheatley Care and Fife Leisure, the club is open to patients who are currently receiving treatment under the Kirkcaldy mental health team or are users of the Wheatley Care Contact Centre. More information is available [here](https://www.facebook.com/nhsfife/posts/pfbid0abkA1tatKFxBLQQcWf1hCwAGquSJoy2mLodogCwEkobXftnMDr2pPwRLyshP4jjWl).

Pain medicines patient safety programme

We’re encouraging people who are suffering from long-term pain, or who care for someone who does, to help us build on our understanding of pain and its management. Our confidential online survey can be found [here](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.nhsfife.org%2Fnews-updates%2Flatest-news%2F2023%2F02%2Ffife-pain-medicines-patient-safety-programme%2F%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR3XJG1BbEdDz7npLOTDhSdCDQ6_1cbTX2fM-vU41vqy1ZUf3KBJoTVkdx4&h=AT1xI_jB0TnuWm-oJUEwF-9FqaAYvEeD9PKB8lCZi1S5gE6wvYYxgfeyye9KsQ7eARkfy6JgwUZo9qaCrqfmFHAXeweBI7UYyhN3SW7Z-X-Pf7DBg4LqQxYu04fVdI9JNQ&__tn__=-UK-R&c%5b0%5d=AT3iVF4ohCDslcdg-9QAvyrlmEYydF5xEcw3WhwhniMFXzUJAKDgq1PF7ncO2LF_px-2yIYPkZWzTJlKkDiBfCRsW44eI_w2bDqltHXOIcio-UrXkdShfveDfwmAgUY87IjJJSGpaZ2QcCgn3tRdl7Zrcdg8ZGmEbv2G5CBcCfzqwVqE7lRgARQ465KgCFjmBUneA1-5MsC1).

Guided self-help service

We’re promoting a new service to support people experiencing milder mental health difficulties, such as low mood, anxiety, panic, or sleep difficulties, that could benefit from a self-help approach. The service is not counselling or therapy but focusses on how various issues can affect a person’s life. More information is available [here](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.accesstherapiesfife.scot.nhs.uk%2Fguided-self-help-service%2F%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR0bpmbEuJ2DnJARXASYETtBFvdDVyVVanRHzl8vxa2dRgG9ehb8TlsP5Wk&h=AT0q1FXHJeu5BPggyFGkYY3zRLC_U6p8E3LVCLIH-0rNFCRfh-uGCh98_2qVicJjJBywSleIonZNMeA3r-iWa0KHkwOVnOdR5XQDYKuQunI4QaAqC8PtvJMmynohpqHEbQ&__tn__=-UK-R&c%5b0%5d=AT1av_iR_v6S26P1K3xePM9GIvDvWxhDVXOwrZJrIlwHxfkQ2lXgLH_xzuZtm2gvrddWWiydazIxms6OSv6TDudNBCmweYiQRYVLcILVr50PKLclPy3O3cEO2EsbrEQPm2uYU3QJczSny4rT4Fsh1E0gFRe5bTdlKlUamFKu3VzIvmnhaU80qSUFXIgGKgQSfNP-MbyN4wIl).

Dental services reminder

If any constituents are experiencing dental issues, they should contact the dental practice they are registered with in the first instance. If they are registered with a dentist, they should call the Dental Advice Line on 01592 226555. Outside normal working hours, if a constituent has a dental emergency, they should call NHS 24 on 111. More information on dental services is available [here](http://www.nhsfife.org/dental).

Covid vaccination

The [online vaccination portal](https://www.nhsinform.scot/wintervaccines) remains open for those who are eligible to book their appointment. They can also book an appointment by calling 0800 030 8013.

Drop-in sessions are also being provided across Fife, where appointments are not required. The latest information on these sessions can be found [here](http://www.nhsfife.org/dropin).

The latest information on local vaccination more generally, including flu immunisation, can be found [here](https://www.nhsfife.org/services/all-services/immunisation/covid-19-vaccination-programme-and-advice/covid-19-vaccination-programme/).

Sharing our messages

We appreciate the support of elected members in sharing our health messages and note that you have already been engaging with the topics we have suggested on social media - we are grateful for your support.

Help us to help you keep your constituents informed

NHS Fife would ask our elective representatives to share our regular updates and guidance via their own channels of communications with their constituents. By supporting us you can help to ensure that we can reach as many people as possible across Fife in a timely manner.

Accessible information and translation

NHS Fife continues to provide interpreting and translation services for patients despite there being no face-to-face interpretation currently. These assets and further information can be found [here](https://coronavirus.nhsfife.org/accessible-informationtranslation/).

All Information correct at time of publishing. Issued by the communications team.