Introduction

This issue brings you a message from Chief Executive, Jane Grant and a Brexit update.

Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive

The 70th anniversary of the NHS has made 2018 a very special year for us all.

As it draws to a close I want to thank everyone for all your tremendous efforts throughout the year and for ensuring that patient services were delivered to the highest possible standard.

I also want to say a special word of thanks to the many staff who will be working at Christmas and New Year while others are at home with family and friends.

I wish all staff a very merry, safe and joyous Christmas and New Year.

Brexit update

As the UK moves further toward EU withdrawal health boards across Scotland are advancing their contingency plans to ensure supplies and services can be maintained.

We are also putting in place HR support for any staff who may be directly affected by residency status issues.

We’ve created a single web portal within our HR Connect portal on the NHSGGC website where staff can access the latest guidance and information on Brexit related issues.

Meanwhile Health Secretary Jeane Freeman has today written to EU health and social care staff to set out the support available from the Scottish Government in light of Brexit.

She is re-assuring them that their contribution is deeply valued and directed them to the new advice and support service, funded by the Scottish Government and delivered by the Citizens Advice Scotland network.

Ms Freeman sent a joint letter with COSLA to social care staff, and a separate letter to NHS staff which follows up on her previous communication to them in September.

The Scottish Government has committed to reimburse the cost of settled status applications for EU citizens working in the devolved public sector in Scotland.

The letter to NHS staff can be read here.