



Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership North West Locality

Area Partnership Update: April-July 2026

HSCP Financial Budget/ Allocation	The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 (the 'Act') required Local Authorities and Health Boards to jointly prepare an Integration Scheme, which sets out how Health and Social Care Integration is to be planned, delivered and monitored within their local area. Within Glasgow City, Glasgow City Council and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde have adopted the 'body corporate' model of Health and Social Care Integration. A separate legal body called the 'Glasgow City Integration Joint Board' is the main decision making body. It leads on and has delegated responsibility for the planning and monitoring of community health and social care services. This includes all services for children, adults and older people, along with homelessness and criminal justice services. For decisions (and further information) on financial budget/allocation, the Integration Joint Board (IJB) meeting papers (current/past) are available to all online here: Glasgow City Integration Joint Board Papers Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership
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Recognising the role of unpaid carers

Unpaid carers play a vital role in supporting people across Glasgow's communities, often balancing complex responsibilities while managing their own health, finances and wellbeing. Supporting carers to maintain a good quality of life alongside their caring role is a key priority for Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP). This is reflected in our Carer Strategy 2025 to 2028 and the services already being delivered across the city.

A new national report published by the Young Academy of Scotland highlights the importance of supporting unpaid carers. It brings together the experiences from carers across Scotland, showing both their value and challenges in accessing support. Around 759,000 unpaid carers in Scotland contribute an estimated £15.9 billion annually. The research draws on survey responses from 50 carers and involves organisations including the University of Strathclyde, Carers Scotland, Carers UK, and the Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland.

Caring impacts many areas of life, including employment, finances, relationships, and mental wellbeing. Although caring can be rewarding, carers often experience pressure, stress, and difficulty accessing timely, consistent support. Some carers report feeling unsupported and isolated within a struggling social care system.

Key improvements needed include:

- More personalised and responsive support
- Better access to clear information
- Increased opportunities for breaks from caring
- Financial support that reflects carers' realities

The report also calls for greater recognition of carers, challenging what it describes as their continued 'invisibility' in society. Jacqui McGoldrick, our HSCP's Head of Older People's Services and Primary Care (North East) said: "In Glasgow, many of these priorities are already being taken forward through the delivery of services linked to our Carer Strategy. "Clearer access to support is being strengthened through published Carer Eligibility Criteria, helping to ensure a more consistent and transparent approach to how support is provided across the city. Information and guidance available through local services are designed to help carers better understand what support is available and how to access it."

In Glasgow, actions already underway include:

- Carer Eligibility Criteria for clearer and fairer access to support
- Adult Carer Support Plans for tailored assistance
- A Short Breaks Services Statement to support respite

There is a strong focus on personalised, joined-up services and co-production with carers. The report also highlights the importance of recognising carers as partners in care and involving them in shaping services. This is echoed in Glasgow's approach, where co-production with carers is central to the development and delivery of support. The HSCP's strategy similarly emphasises the importance of working alongside carers to ensure services reflect the realities of their day-to-day lives.

Dr Kieren Egan, lead author of the report and member of the Young Academy of Scotland, said: "As demands on our care system grow, informal carers shoulder immense responsibility, while receiving too little recognition. Our findings make it clear that national and local decision-makers must act now to ensure carers are valued across Scotland. The report highlights an opportunity to reimagine how unpaid care is supported, placing lived experience at the centre of future policy and service design."

To find out more about support for carers in Glasgow available from Glasgow City HSCP visit [Carers - Health and Social Care Supports](#)

Deprescribing: It's Ok to ask if medicines are still needed

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC) are encouraging people to feel confident having open conversations about their health, including the medicines they take. As part of its commitment to Realistic Medicine, NHSGGC is asking patients, families and carers to speak to healthcare professionals about whether their medicines are still the right choice for them.

Many people take medicines for long periods of time, sometimes for conditions that have changed or improved. Others may be taking several medicines at once. While medicines can be life-saving and essential, there are times when a medicine may no longer be needed, may not be helping as expected, or may be causing unwanted side effects. This is where deprescribing comes in.

Deprescribing is the planned and supervised process of reducing or stopping medicines that may no longer be providing benefit, or where the potential risks outweigh the benefits. It is always done safely, with support from a healthcare professional such as a GP, pharmacist or nurse, and should never be done without advice.

Anne Thomson, NHSGGC Lead Pharmacist, Clinical Services, said:

“Medicines play a vital role in treating and preventing illness, but they should always be reviewed to make sure they are still right for the person taking them. Reviewing medicines involves having open, informed conversations and making shared decisions that reflect someone’s current health, priorities and circumstances. It should always be done carefully and with professional support, never on your own.”

Asking questions about medicines is an important part of shared decision making, where patients and healthcare professionals work together to decide what care is right for the individual, based on what matters most to them.

When a medicine is being started or reviewed people may wish to ask:

- What is this medicine for?
- What are the benefits for me now?
- Are there any risks or side effects?
- Are there alternatives?
- What might happen if I reduce or stop it?

These conversations can take place at any appointment, including with a GP, practice nurse, pharmacist, hospital doctor or other healthcare professional. Pharmacists across NHS GGC play a key role in supporting people to understand their medicines, reduce waste and ensure medicines are being used safely and effectively. This includes helping people review repeat prescriptions and safely return unused medicines.

Reducing unnecessary medicines not only supports better health outcomes, but also helps cut medicines waste, ensuring NHS resources are used where they can make the biggest difference. Deprescribing is not about 'taking medicines away'. It is about making sure each medicine is right for the person taking it, at the right time in their life.

As part of Realistic Medicine, NHS GGC is committed to listening to patients, valuing their experiences, and supporting informed choices about care and treatment. Anyone with questions about their medicines is encouraged to ask. There is no such thing as a silly question when it comes to health. It's OK to Ask. For more information about Realistic Medicine, medicines waste, and how to get involved in shaping NHS services, visit:

nhs.uk/your-health/right-care-right-place/pharmacy/medicines-waste
nhs.uk/contact-us/get-involved

Supporting Parents to chat about Sexual health and relationships	The Chat is a new website that has been developed by health professionals to help you to support your child as they learn about friendships, relationships and growing up. You can look for what you need depending on the age of your child, the topic that they are interested in or the questions they ask. The Chat website was developed in response to feedback from, parents who took part in an engagement process to share their experiences of supporting their child's learning at home. Conversations with parents and a national survey provided insight into life at home and how parents want to support their child from the early years, through childhood and into the teenage years so that they are equipped to be healthy, happy and safe in their friendships and relationships. One of the things found was that parents wanted a 'one stop shop' online resource to help them feel more confident when talking with children and young people on a range of topics within relationships, sexual health and parenthood. Parents also trusted the NHS as a source of information and support. Elaine McCormack, Health Improvement Lead, Sandyford Sexual Health Services, which is hosted by Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP), said: "In response to the engagement work, our Health Improvement Team for Sexual Health worked with colleagues across Scotland to develop The Chat parent resource. There are sections on the questions children and young people ask, support to talk about topics, where to get support as a parent and nursery and school education." If you have any questions relating to the resource or to the initial engagement work, please contact elaine.mccormack@nhs.scot
Tackling Vaping among young people and children	Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) staff have been recognised at this year's NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde's (NHSGGC) Public Health Staff Awards.

	Our HSCP Health Improvement Team staff member Cara Stirling was honoured alongside her NHSGGC colleagues, with the group winning the Creativity in Problem Solving Award for their innovative work in developing video resources to tackle vaping among children and young people. Due to increasing concerns about youth vaping in Scotland and a lack of practical prevention tools, staff created a suite of engaging, evidence-informed materials. Cara said: “These materials were designed to support schools, youth services and families to discuss vaping and its associated harms and inform decision-making about vaping. They’re already in use by education staff, youth workers and local partners across Glasgow, helping staff to have more confident conversations with young people and strengthening community-wide prevention efforts.” The award celebrates the team’s creative, collaborative approach and their ability to translate complex public health information into usable materials. Link to the Risk Of Vaping video Link to Stop Vaping Tips for Young People video
Power of Attorney Day	You never know what’s around the corner. We tend to assume that close relatives will automatically be allowed to make decisions on our behalf if something happens to us, but this isn’t true. Without power of attorney, it is not certain who can take decisions on your behalf. With power of attorney in place, you can be confident that you have taken the necessary steps to make everything as clear as possible. That’s why Carer’s Scotland launched the first UK wide Power of Attorney Day – which took place on Wednesday, 22 April 2026.

Power of Attorney (PoA) comes into being when that person is no longer able to look after their financial or personal affairs. The person, or people, who are granted these powers are known as 'attorneys'. The person giving them the authority is called a 'granter.' Attorneys must always act in the granter's best interest.

Karen Lockhart, Assistant Chief Officer for Adult Services, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) highlighted the importance of having a POA in place, not only to give peace of mind to people and their families, but to avoid issues like unnecessary hospital delays in hospital following an unplanned admission. Karen said: "Having a PoA in place means you can nominate someone you trust to make the important decisions about your daily living routines, including medical care and treatment as well as alternative care options like moving into a care home or being supported at home. Not many people know that even if you have a next of kin, you still need a PoA to make sure your wishes are followed if you become incapacitated – it doesn't automatically fall to your next of kin."

The truth is that families face a long and stressful process if they haven't arranged a Power of Attorney. You might think it's something you don't need to bother with because you're young, fit and have family members, or close friends will be there to do that for you, but that's not how it works. By law, no one has an automatic right to make decisions on your behalf. It's vitally important to have arrangements like a PoA in place. It means there's someone you know and trust who is legally, and without complication or delay, authorised to make decisions on your behalf rather than a stranger."

Setting up a PoA in Scotland is simple with the right planning and legal aid may be available to those on low and modest incomes. You can find out more about appointing a PoA from:

[Public Office of Guardian \(Scotland\)](#)

Age Scotland has an information [leaflet](#)

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde has more [information](#) on preparing for healthcare including POA.

It's worth another try campaign	Glasgow City HSCP is supporting the “It’s worth another try campaign”, which has been launched across Glasgow and London, by the Terrence Higgins Trust. This campaign aims to encourage and support people living with HIV who are currently disengaged from care to return to the HIV clinic. Shorts: It's worth another try - YouTube Sustained engagement in HIV care is essential for achieving good health outcomes and reducing HIV transmission. However, in the UK, an estimated 5,000 to 14,000 people living with HIV are currently not engaged in care and are at increased risk of poor health and passing HIV on to others. The campaign is designed to: • reduce stigma, fear, and shame, and reassure people about returning to care • raise awareness across the healthcare system • encourage re engagement with HIV care by calling THT Direct on 0808 802 1221 or email info@tht.org.uk All messaging has been developed using insights from people living with HIV, including those with experience of disengaging from care. This campaign would benefit: • patients, service users or colleagues that are living with HIV and who may not be attending appointments for their HIV care at the Brownlee Centre • patients, service users or colleagues that are living with HIV who are new to Scotland and may never have attended HIV care since arriving here Health services and local authorities play a critical role in supporting public health. You can help ensure individuals are connected to the HIV care and support they need. You can: • order free campaign posters for your site in A4 or A5 size by emailing anothertry@tht.org.uk • signpost people to THT Direct, a free and confidential helpline on 0808 802 1221 or the campaign webpage It's worth another try Terrence Higgins Trust for further support.
Empowering Foster Carers and Adoptive	Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) is shining a spotlight on the vital role our foster carers and adoptive parents play in the lives of children and young people with two new initiatives. A brand-new online learning platform, GOLD (Glasgow Online Learning and Development), has been launched to give Glasgow’s foster carers and

Parents through lived experience	adoptive parents easy access to high-quality training and support materials. This platform received recognition at our HSCP's 2026 Staff Awards for Excellence. This new, innovative online learning initiative is now up and running for Glasgow's foster carers, short-breaks carers and adoptive parents. They can access introductory modules on topics such as Autism and Neurodivergence, Impact of Developmental Trauma and Understanding the Window of Tolerance. Upcoming modules include a focus on Nurture Principles, Child Protection, First Aid and other topics. The initiative was recently shortlisted in the Innovation category of the 2026 Staff Awards for Excellence, and the goal is to give all of Glasgow's carers and adoptive parents a chance to complement their in-person learning with online opportunities where they can access valuable content at a time and place that suits them. All modules are designed to be used on a smartphone or tablet – they are short and interactive and carers report they are finding them useful, enjoyable and interesting. Alongside GOLD, Families for Children has launched a new fostering podcast series called 'Let's Talk Fostering', featuring two dedicated Glasgow foster carers sharing honest conversations about their journeys. They speak candidly about what fostering really means — the rewards, challenges and the moments that make everything worthwhile. The podcast aims to break down myths, encourage more people to consider fostering and help the public understand the realities of providing a safe and loving home. You can listen to the podcast on Spotify or find out more at Foster Glasgow / Adoption Glasgow Together, GOLD and Let's Talk Fostering underline our HSCP's commitment to equipping foster carers and adopters with the tools, knowledge and support they need while also amplifying their voices and experiences. Liz Simpson, Head of Children's Services/Families for Children and Children's Residential, said: "Foster carers and adoptive parents do incredible work every day, and these initiatives show our commitment to supporting them with high-quality learning, shared experiences and a strong, supportive community."
Glasgow event encourages action on mental health and wellbeing	As part of Mental Health Awareness Week 2026, the Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership's (HSCP) Health Improvement Team brought together professionals from across the city for an event focused on the theme 'Take Action'.

Held at Impact Arts' city centre venue, The Boardwalk, the event welcomed 47 participants, representing a wide range of services. It aimed to strengthen connections, share learning and highlight practical approaches to supporting mental health and wellbeing across Glasgow.

Mary Kate Russell, Health Improvement Senior said: "Through a combination of speaker sessions, networking opportunities and a marketplace of local services, attendees explored ways to turn awareness into meaningful action. The event encouraged collaboration and showcased the wide range of support available across the city."

Participants heard from a range of speakers who shared expertise and practical approaches to improving mental health support. The University of Strathclyde presented on the development of its Suicide Prevention Strategy, while Lifelink outlined the wellbeing services it delivers across Glasgow. Our HSCP's Learning and Development Team provided an overview of suicide prevention training opportunities, and the Greater Glasgow and Clyde Mental Health Network highlighted the value of peer support in improving outcomes.

Attendees also had the opportunity to take part in guided visits to SAMH's 'The Nook', a welcoming drop in space offering support to young people aged 10 and over, families, adults experiencing mental health challenges and those supporting others. A marketplace of organisations further enriched the event, giving attendees the chance to find out more about local support and build new connections. Organisations represented included Kooth, Upstream Youth Counselling, Lifelink, Health Improvement, With You, SAMH and YOMO.

Feedback from participants showed that the event was both informative and impactful. Many reported that the sessions and discussions helped them reflect on how they support staff's mental health and wellbeing and highlighted practical steps they could take within their own organisations.

	Participants also noted an increased awareness of services, resources and training opportunities, with several reporting that they had discovered organisations that they were previously unaware of. The event also successfully fostered new partnerships, with attendees making connections that could support future collaboration. One participant said: “It was a very insightful event. It got me thinking about how we can increase peer input within our organisation.” Another highlighted the focus on practical implementation, commenting: “I liked the importance of ‘doing’, as there is often a lot of focus on policy but not on how it’s implemented.” A further attendee added: “We have connected with three different organisations about incorporating lived experience into the workplace.” Overall, the event demonstrated the value of bringing services together to share knowledge, build relationships and take practical action to improve mental health and wellbeing across Glasgow. Read the Mental Health Awareness Week 2026 event report.
Enjoy the heat safely – NHSGGC issues simple advice to help people stay safe and well	NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde is urging people to take simple steps to look after themselves and their families in the sun and warm conditions, helping to avoid illness or injury. During warmer weather, common issues can include sunburn, heat exhaustion, dehydration, food poisoning, and bites and stings. Many of these can be prevented with a little extra care. NHSGGC is advising people to: • Stay safe in the sun – Wear high-factor sunscreen, cover up with suitable clothing – and a hat, stay hydrated, and spend time in the shade where possible. • Stay hydrated – make sure you drink additional water as your body needs much more fluid to cope with the heat • Take care with food – When barbecuing, ensure food is cooked thoroughly and evenly, and keep raw and cooked foods separate. • Be prepared at home – Keep a supply of over-the-counter medicines such as paracetamol or ibuprofen, treatments for bites and stings, and antihistamines for allergies. • Have basic first aid supplies – A simple first aid kit, including plasters, bandages and antiseptic wipes, along with an ice pack, can help manage minor injuries such as cuts, bruises, sprains and strains.

	Dr John O'Dowd, Interim Director of Public Health for NHSGGC, said: "The warm weather is a great opportunity to spend time outdoors and enjoy time with family and friends. We want everyone to enjoy this safely by taking simple steps such as protecting themselves in the sun, staying hydrated and preparing food properly. These small actions can help prevent common illnesses and injuries at this time of year. By thinking ABC before attending A&E, you can make sure you are getting the right care in the right place, while also helping to protect services for those who need them most." For more information about staying safe in hot weather, go to NHS Inform.
Bowel Cancer UK Early Diagnosis Programme	The Early Diagnosis Programme (EDP) is a new innovative programme led by Bowel Cancer UK, to drive early diagnosis through improvements in timely presentation of symptoms or increased screening uptake. Working in partnership with local health systems the EDP will see place-based multi-intervention plans that deliver greater impact for communities and bowel cancer outcomes than standard approaches. Greater Glasgow and Clyde will be one of five EDPs run in the first phase of the programme, which will help us understand the effectiveness of this new model. This is a yearlong programme with activity in Greater Glasgow and Clyde commencing in October. The postcodes in Greater Glasgow and Clyde that the programme will be delivered in are: • NW: ○ G20 – Ruchill ○ G22 – Possilpark ○ G4 – Cowcaddens, Woodlands • NE: ○ G33 – Cranhill, Riddrie ○ G4 – Calton, Townhead, Port Dundas • South: ○ G5 – Gorbals ○ G41 – Pollokshields East ○ G42 – Govanhill Bowel Cancer UK are looking to identify key organisations within these identified areas to support and engage with the range of programme activities. Suitable venues for delivering information stalls and talks. They are also keen for local people to support this work through the volunteering opportunities advertised below.

	Please contact Natasha for more information and to connect with further to support this programme of work natasha.johnston@bowelcanceruk.org.uk
Dementia Awareness Week	Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) welcomed carers, families and local residents to a series of community events during this year's Dementia Awareness Week, highlighting the importance of early diagnosis and the support available. Held annually in early June by Alzheimer Scotland and NHS Scotland, this year's campaign focused on dementia diagnosis and raising awareness of the most common early symptoms. To mark the week, our HSCP Day Centre managers and staff hosted drop-in information sessions alongside afternoon tea events across our six day care centres. Staff from Alzheimer Scotland were also present to offer advice and answer questions, creating a relaxed and supportive environment for attendees. The events were well received, with carers, service users and local people taking the opportunity to connect with professionals and each other over strawberry tarts and refreshments. At Meadowburn Day Care Centre, there was a particularly strong turnout, with attendees sharing positive feedback about the support available. One visitor, whose husband has dementia, said speaking to Alzheimer Scotland staff had helped her "massively," while also valuing the opportunity to meet other carers and families facing similar experiences. Wallacewell Day Care Centre also welcomed family members and members of the public, who took part in discussions with HSCP staff and Community Support Services as part of the afternoon tea event.

Julia Donaldson, Service Manager, said: “Over the week at our day care centres, we had information on Post Diagnostic Support Workers, Occupational Therapy and our HSCP’s Home Technology Team. We also had visits from Give A Dog A Bone support and companionship dogs and CAB - Welfare Rights. Performances from Neilston Strings Therapeutic Music for the brain entertained everyone during an afternoon tea of strawberry tarts and sandwiches which went down a treat. Police Scotland spoke about online scamming and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service raised awareness of fire safety at home, handing out leaflets and booking home visits. The events were an enjoyable way to raise awareness of dementia and the support available.”

Early diagnosis of dementia is crucial to ensure optimal support and information is provided. One of the most common symptoms of dementia is memory loss. If memory loss affects your daily life, or is worrying you or someone you know, you should speak to your GP. In Scotland, everyone who is newly diagnosed with dementia is entitled to Post Diagnostic Support (PDS). This helps people diagnosed and their carers to understand dementia, plan for the future and get support to stay well for as long as possible.

Further support and information:

- PDS group sessions email: jstewart@alzscot.org
- [NHS Inform](#) (dementia information):
- [Alzheimer Scotland](#) has a free Helpline phone: 0808 808 3000
- [Age Scotland](#)
- Advice for [unpaid carers](#) in Glasgow
- [Home Technology](#) Team

Drug Stigma Toolkit	The NHSGGC Drug Stigma Toolkit has recently been launched by the GGC Drug Stigma Action Group. This is a cascading and capacity building resource that aims to support partners, groups and organisations to tackle drug stigma. Everyone who uses the toolkit is encouraged to reflect on their own attitudes and language and use this resource to start meaningful conversations within teams, services, across communities and to tackle drug stigma wherever it is encountered. By taking action together, we can help create a more compassionate and supportive response to drug harm. All elements of the toolkit can be found at Tackling Drug Stigma - NHSGGC. For more information contact Morven Bell - morven.bell2@nhs.scot