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In this edition we're thrilled to welcome, Dr Kgotolelo Mompoti, Dr Kirsty H Lees, Dr Mandy Hunter, three highly skilled obstetrician consultants, who have joined our growing maternity team at Dr Gray's.

Their diverse backgrounds and unwavering commitment and experience will further enrich our team's capabilities, ensuring that we continue to strive for the highest standard of care for women and newborns alike.

Alongside this exciting expansion, we are proud to share that maternity services across the Highland Council area have achieved Gold UNICEF UK Baby

Friendly Service accreditation. This shows how much work the teams have done to promote breastfeeding and nurturing parent-infant relationships. In addition, we're happy to announce that our Maternity Target Operating Model (TOM) has been given the green light by NHS Grampian clinicians. This model was achieved through collaboration with a variety of colleagues and experts who are backing the program. Whilst the TOM will continue to evolve as the programme progresses, this marks an important step forward, paving the way for detailed workforce planning to begin.

Moray's Recruitment Campaign in Liverpool Attracts Nearly 200 Prospective Recruits

A group of Midwives from Moray and The Highlands recently made a significant impact at the Royal College of Midwives Annual Conference in Liverpool. Their appearance was part of a recruitment campaign aimed at boosting local staff numbers. Held on May 8-9, the team showcased the North of Scotland as place to live and work and it proved so popular that the team spoke to more than 200 people and attendees were queuing up to find out more about the region.

The move is part of an innovative campaign called "Wish You Worked Here", which is designed to attract new staff to our maternity services. In Liverpool, the team utilised virtual reality (VR) technology to show off the region's scenic beauty and quality of life. Attendees were treated to immersive views of iconic locations like Cooper Park, Roseisle Beach, and Lossiemouth Lighthouse, alongside a tour of Dr Gray's Hospital.

Jane Gill, Maternity Collaborative Project Director, expressed her delight at the campaign's success. "We're overjoyed with how positively the team were received. The level of interest sparked among potential recruits easily surpassed all our expectations," she said. She also confirmed that almost 50 midwives have shown firm interest in relocating to Moray or the Highlands following the event.



Complementing the VR showcase, attendees sampled Scottish delicacies from Walkers Shortbread, Baxters, and Tunnocks Teacakes.

This recruitment initiative is part of a broader campaign that includes a dedicated website, wishyouworkedhere.scot, and extensive advertising across various platforms. Since its launch, the campaign has attracted over 60,000 website visitors and nearly 300 enquiries from potential recruits.

The recruitment drive is set to continue with events targeting anaesthetists and nurses. For those interested, the VR experience is available online at: Moray VR.

Click or scan here to see the full press release.



Click or scan here to visit our dedicated recruitment website and watch our films.



Dr Kgotolelo Mompoti

Consultant Obstetrician

With over 10 years of clinical experience in different healthcare systems and a passion for women's health, I am elated to join the obstetrics and gynaecology department at Dr Gray's hospital at this stage of its growth. I am delighted to be part of a team that focuses on personalised care and evidence-based practices. As a Consultant, I strive to ensure every patient feels heard, respected, and cared for throughout their journey.



Dr Kirsty Lees

Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist

I was previously working in the South Coast as a Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist with a special interest in high risk pregnancy care.

We moved to Moray 18 months ago at the start of my maternity leave to allow us to spend more time in a place that we love and decided very quickly that we wanted to make the area our permanent home. My ambition is to be part of a team which will provide sustainable obstetric led services to the families of Moray at Dr Gray's Hospital. As part of this you may come to see me in a complex antenatal care clinic or for an ultrasound that previously may have required you to travel further afield. I am looking forward to seeing how the service will develop to serve the community going forward.



Dr Mandy Hunter

Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist

Having spent time as a full-time Consultant in Obstetrics and Gynaecology in both Dr Gray's Hospital and Raigmore Hospital for the last 13 years, I'm now delighted to have the best of both worlds and work half-time in each location. I'm proud to be a part of the team developing our modern local maternity and gynaecology services in Moray, within the wider structure of Grampian and Highland so that every woman can receive the care that they need.



Award win for Dr Gray's theatre staff:

A very big congratulations to all the team in theatres at Dr Gray's who were named as "Healthcare Heroes" in The Northern Scot's Moray and Banffshire Heroes 2024 event. It's a fantastic well-deserved win, and we are delighted for them. An honourable mention must go to their fellow nominees, the Moray Coast District Nursing Team.

Thank you for the feedback on the newsletters so far. We have reviewed all of the comments and hope to build some of the requests into this and future publications. Please keep that feedback coming.

email: gram.maternityengagement@nhs.scot



GOLD UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Services

Huge congratulations to our Maternity Services throughout the Highland Council area for attaining accreditation as a Gold UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Service. The UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative empowers public services to better assist families with feeding and nurturing close, affectionate relationships, ensuring every baby receives the optimal start in life. Securing gold status reflects the dedication of midwifery services, showcasing sustainable leadership, a positive ethos, ongoing evaluation, and continuous improvement across services. This underscores the commitment of midwifery services to advocate, safeguard, and bolster breastfeeding, while fostering every mother's journey in cultivating a deep, loving bond with her baby.



Isla Barton, Director of Midwifery for NHS Highland, said: "I am absolutely delighted that we have achieved gold. This is a real credit to everyone involved in the services and I'd like to say a huge thank you to them, and to Karen Mackay our Infant Feeding Advisor, who do such a fantastic job. We are really committed to continuing the good work."



Care Opinion Story:

Posted by **authenticnj39** (as the patient), last week:

I've been in the day assessment multiple times during my pregnancy due to reduced movements and excessive movements. Couldn't recommend the team enough! Everyone is so supportive and helpful with any of my concerns and instantly puts me at ease and give me and my baby the best care! So glad the day assessment unit has been reopened since I've become pregnant as I couldn't get through my pregnancy without them! I couldn't praise the team enough and they are a credit to Dr Gray's and the NHS!

Response from **Charlotte McWilliam**, Senior Charge Midwife, Dr Gray's Hospital, NHS Grampian last week:

Hello authenticnj39,
Thank you so much for your very kind words about our Day Assessment Unit here at Ward 3, Dr Gray's Hospital. The entire team will be delighted to hear you found your experience there supportive and helpful, I will ensure all the positive feedback you have mentioned is passed on to them.
I wish you all the best with the rest of your pregnancy and your new arrival.
Kindest regards, Charlotte



Charlotte McWilliam
Senior Charge Midwife

NHS Highland - Hospital to Home Launch: 23rd April 2024



We are pleased to launch, in partnership with NHS Highland - Hospital to Home (H2H). This project offers personalised short-term support to bereaved families after the devastating loss of a baby and is offered following discharge.

This is an 'opt out service' for families which allows the H2H support worker to reach in, so families do not have to reach out for support.

H2H support provided:

- 6-8 visits at home at a time that suits the family.
- Physical and emotional support in the early days and weeks.
- Assistance with planning funeral/memorial arrangements.
- Support to prepare for and attend follow up hospital appointments.
- Provide information on grief to family and extended family and friends.
- Talk to siblings and provide books for home and school.
- Provide advice and support to families returning to work.
- Continuity of care and long-term support through referral on to peer support or specialist baby loss counselling



Referrals to H2H can be made via your local Badgernet system to: referrals@heldinourhearts.org.uk

Hospital to Home project with Held in Our Hearts

Gill Valentine, associate director of midwifery for NHS Highland North said, "We are delighted to be working in collaboration with Held in Our Hearts charity to offer additional support for birthing women and their families once they have left the hospital setting and are back at home. Held in

Our Hearts are an integral part of the Highland bereavement team, and we thank them for all tireless hard work it has taken to be in a position to launch this service for the families of NHS Highland." "The support services that Held In Our Hearts have provided to both our staff and bereaved families in the Highlands is very hard to put into words, nothing short of inspirational."

Computerised fetal monitoring at Dr Gray's Hospital

Dr Gray's Hospital introduces computerised fetal monitoring to support the expansion of the Maternity Day Assessment Unit.

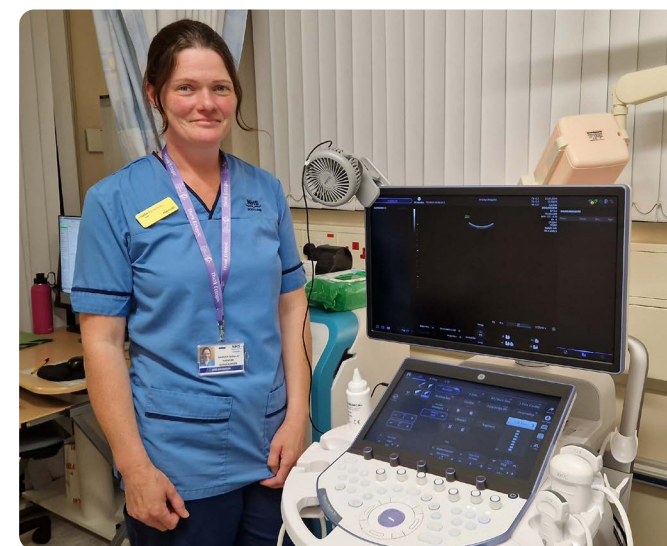
NHS Grampian is excited to announce the addition of two new fetal monitoring cardiotocography (CTG) machines, a significant enhancement aimed at improving the maternity service for Moray families.

This investment will improve the length of time expectant mothers spend in the Maternity Assessment Unit, and enable more efficient monitoring ensuring the best care for both mothers and their babies.

This upgrade is part of the ongoing efforts to develop an enhanced maternity service in Moray. With the service due to become consultant-led in two years.

"We are delighted to introduce these new CTG machines," said Jacqueline Keddie, Midwifery Lead for Moray.

"This investment underscores our commitment to providing top-notch maternity care and improving the overall patient experience. By enhancing our efficiency, we can conduct faster and more efficient prenatal assessments and the advanced technology ensures precise and dependable fetal health monitoring.



NHS Grampian and NHS Highland are collaborating to enhance maternity services, allowing more Moray women to give birth locally rather than traveling to Aberdeen. This networked approach aims to offer more choices and better care, with consultant-led obstetric births at Dr Gray's expected to begin in two years.

The additional equipment comes hot on the heels of recent recruitment successes within the maternity service at Dr Gray's with three new obstetrician/gynaecologists, new midwives, and additional staff now in place.