

partnership matters briefing



May/June 2025



Pat Togher, Chief Officer

Welcome to Glasgow City HSCP's 'Partnership Matters' briefing, to keep you more up to date with some of what's happening across our HSCP with partners. [Current and past briefings](#) continue to be available on our HSCP's website, and they can be accessed from work and personal devices. We hope that you find our briefing useful. Any comments or suggestions for future topics are welcome, and they can be shared by contacting us at GCHSCP_Communications@glasgow.gov.uk.

Glasgow City HSCP staff recognised at NHSGGC Celebrating Success Awards

Huge congratulations to the [Thistle Project Team](#) who were announced as the overall winner of the Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) Staff Awards For Excellence (SAFE) at the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC) Celebrating Success Awards, which took place on 28 May 2025.

The Thistle Project Team had already won our Innovation of the Year award at our HSCP SAFE Awards in March for its groundbreaking role delivering the UK's first Safer Drug Consumption Facility (SDCF).

SDCFs are supervised healthcare settings where people can inject drugs, obtained elsewhere, in the presence of trained health and social care professionals in clean, hygienic environments. The service aims to reduce the negative impact that injecting outdoors has on local residents, communities and businesses, reduce the harms associated with injecting drugs on individuals and support people to access help to improve their lives.

Led by our HSCP, this project brought together a range of partners, including Glasgow City Council, City Building, NHSGGC and several others to create a service that addresses complex health and social challenges.

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Through extensive consultations with lived experience reference groups and the surrounding community, the team ensured the facility was tailored to meet the unique needs of users, with the potential to significantly reduce harm and influence future legislation.

Throughout the project, all teams were led by the need to deliver the highest quality of care for potential service users, who traditionally don't engage with standard treatment services, and suffer marginalisation and stigma.

Pat Togher, our HSCP's Chief Officer said: "Congratulations to all involved in the development of the Thistle Safer Drug Consumption Facility. This is a clear demonstration of the benefits of partnership working, everyone bringing their own skills and knowledge to produce a service that meets the needs of the lived experience reference groups and future service users."

Also attending from our HSCP were our [SAFE Awards category winners](#), which included Employee of the Year, Team of the Year, Leader of the Year and Volunteer of the Year.

After the local staff awards winners from all HSCP in the Board area were completed, the NHSGGC Excellence Awards nominees and winners were announced.

Congratulations to our HSCP's North West Primary Care Pharmacy Team – Zendesk staff, who won the Better Value Category.

This project has transformed how community pharmacies interact with GP practices. It allows them to submit their queries online instead of through time-consuming phone calls, improving response times and ensuring patient care is prioritised. It has also improved patient experience, freed up clinical capacity and brought significant cost savings

In addition, HSCP staff were recognised in two other categories.

Stacey Kavanagh, Nurse Team Lead, South Alcohol and Drug Delivery service in Pollok was nominated in the Better Workplace category. This award recognises our staff who help make NHSGGC a better workplace, improving the culture and supporting colleagues.

The Growing Spaces Garden Volunteers at Gartnavel Royal Hospital were nominated in the Volunteer category. The award recognises people who go the extra mile contributing tirelessly and providing outstanding help and support for the benefit of others. The garden volunteers had won our HSCP's Staff Awards Volunteer category earlier in the year.

Congratulations to all our staff. For more from the 2025 ceremony, including pictures and information on winners, categories and individual nominations, please go to the [NHSGGC website](#).

Glasgow care home residents celebrate 80th Anniversary of VE Day

Staff at Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP)'s Hawthorn House Care Home in Possilpark, which has 120 residents, organised events throughout the week including two street themed parties. This allowed people to come together to celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE Day on Thursday 8 May 2025.



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Residents at Victoria Garden's Care Home in Knightswood also celebrated the anniversary with a morning tea and an afternoon sing song. There were also garden or street parties in all services with entertainment wherever possible.

At Hawthorn House, Elvis impersonator Shaun Hamilton entertained everyone, shimmying his way around the gardens, dancing with the ladies, shaking hands with the men and even planting a kiss on the cheek of guest of honour the Lord Provost Jacqueline McLaren.

She said: "Many of the residents here will remember what it was like to live during a war. It's important to hear their stories on a day like today. There's a great community feel to today's event, it's fantastic. It's a privilege to share it all with them."

Residents and their families were asked to provide memories of the wartime, including photographs, newspaper clippings and a soldier's release book, which were put on display in the foyer of the home.

An old-fashioned sweetie cart and VE Day cake, beautifully decorated by the staff with fresh raspberries and blueberries, were also created for the occasion.

Janet McLellan, Operations Manager at our HSCP's Hawthorn House said: "It was a fantastic day, enjoyed by all. We have eight units here, so this is a lovely chance for everyone to come together in the sunshine and remember and celebrate."

"A lot of our residents were kids at that time and their parents were in the army. We have had two street parties over the last two days which have been about celebrating and remembering VE Day."

Lance Corporal Andy Dominick and colleagues from 105th Division Royal Artillery based at Crow Road also came along and spent time talking to residents and staff.

Some of the residents talked about where they were on May 8, 1945. Betty Memuir was 13 on VE Day and remembers the celebrations in George Square.

She said: "A pal and I asked our mums if we could go to George Square because we heard there was going to be a party. We went along and it was marvellous - everyone was singing and there was dancing. People were letting off fireworks, it was great until a firework went up then fell back down and landed on my foot. I have the scar to this day."

Niki Ross, the Activities Coordinator at Victoria Gardens said: "The day was a good mix of activities where the residents of the care home came together to talk about their memories of that time and share stories about the roles their family members had during the war. One lady told us she was around eight when the war ended, and she remember how happy everyone was that the fighting was finally over. Families were looking forward to being together again."

Robin Wallace, our HSCP's Head of Older People, Residential and Day Care Services said: "Celebrating VE Day at Hawthorn House and our other care homes was a heartfelt tribute to the courage and resilience of a remarkable generation. It's a privilege and honour to hear their stories, help reminisce and create moments of joy that reflect the pride and spirit of the day."



Celebrating success: Project SEARCH interns graduate and step into employment

DFN Project SEARCH has been making a meaningful difference in the lives of young people in Glasgow for over 10 years.

Project SEARCH is an innovative and transformative work-based learning programme for young adults aged 18 to 29 with learning disabilities and/or autism spectrum conditions. It

provides them with real work experience combined with training in employability and independent living skills, with the main aim of gaining and sustaining a job.

Since 2013, our staff in Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership's (HSCP) [Supported Employment Service](#) have played a vital role in the development and delivery of both Project SEARCH sites, hosted at NHS Glasgow Royal Infirmary and the University of Strathclyde.

This June, the programme celebrated the graduation of this year's interns with two ceremonies held at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary and the University of Strathclyde. In total, 20 young people are graduating from the programme, many of whom have already secured employment. Several others are currently interviewing or awaiting job offers, with high hopes for more positive outcomes in the coming weeks.

These graduation ceremonies serve as powerful reminders of the accomplishments of the young people who take part in Project SEARCH. They also provide an opportunity for families, mentors, and supporters to come together in celebration.

One of this year's interns shared: "I highly recommend Project SEARCH to anyone thinking of doing it. They really helped me understand my strengths."

The success of the programme lies in its tailored approach helping young people with learning disabilities and/or autism build the skills, confidence, and experience they need to gain and maintain full-time, paid employment.

Importantly, support doesn't end at graduation, our HSCP's Supported Employment Service continues to assist those still looking for work and provides job coaching to those who have secured employment. This ongoing guidance helps the young people transition smoothly into the workplace and thrive in their new roles.

Angie Black, Supported Employment Service Manager, said: "I love being able to celebrate the achievements of the interns at the graduation ceremony. I'm so proud of all the young people who've taken part and of all they've achieved — they're truly an inspiration."

Applications are open for Project SEARCH

Do you know anyone with learning disabilities and/or autism spectrum conditions who lives in Glasgow City and is looking for a way to develop and enter the world of work? If yes, then encourage them to apply for Project Search!

Project Search is full time Monday to Friday, 9am until 4pm. Participants are expected to have excellent timekeeping and attendance.



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To apply to Project Search visit the website of [Glasgow Clyde College](#) or [City of Glasgow College](#) and complete the application forms. Information on entry requirements are included on their websites.

Parkhead Hub welcomes local community to first networking day

Parkhead Hub's first community networking event was declared a roaring success by staff and the public who attended the event on 22 May. The new Hub welcomed local families and organisations to come together to see the breadth of Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) and local community services, available in the east area of Glasgow.

The focus of the day was on the wide range of services across the community supporting the mental health and wellbeing of children, young people and their families. There was also a range of free activities from massage and tai chi to arts, crafts and play.

Over 40 stalls with representatives from the HSCP, third sector organisations and community groups were spread over the two courtyards and foyer area in the Hub, showcasing services and running activities to promote wellbeing. These included our HSCP's Health Improvement staff, Children's Services, Parkhead Youth Project and GAMH North East Carer Service.

Jackie Shearer, Engagement and Equalities Coordinator for Parkhead Hub organised the busy event. She said: "The day kicked off with the launch of the popular new Social Blend café, which opened in March and is already well used by visitors and staff. It's run by Include Me 2 Club, a social enterprise and charity that offers employment and training opportunities to young people and adults with additional support needs.

"We also set up a performance area in the foyer of the Hub where Glasgow Kelvin College students performed, and Indepen-dance, a Bridgeton based dance company that supports young people with additional support needs, led some group routines. They both gave a joyful performance that had everyone smiling and dancing with the young people.

"Glasgow Life's Sing for Fun community choir came along at 2pm and belted out some popular tunes. It was great to hear everyone joining in with the singing. It was so good to see everyone smiling and taking time out to enjoy themselves. Huge thanks to everyone who took part. We hope that this will be the first of many different events at the Hub."

Bailie Norman MacLeod, Glasgow City IJB Member and Chair of our HSCP's Public Engagement Committee also attended the event. He said: "The Parkhead Hub simply is magnificent. The extensive range of health and social care services now in one place, co-located with Parkhead Library and a first class public cafe - all very welcoming and open to all, mark it out as a very special addition to the east of the city. I was hugely impressed by the Hub. I'd like to congratulate those responsible for its creation and wish everyone concerned with its future operation all happiness and continuing success."

Chloe Heyburn and Claire McLachlan from our Health Improvement Team were delighted to run a stall. Chloe said: "We loved meeting and chatting with everyone, and sharing more about the important work of our North East Health Improvement Team, as well as local networks and resources that support our communities.



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“A real highlight has been the Tree of Hope, beautifully created by unpaid workers from the Community Payback Service. Attendees were eager to add their own messages, making it a truly uplifting and collaborative piece of art.”

Margaret McBride, Service Manager, GAMH North East Carer Service, said: “What an amazing day everyone had at the community event. Such a fantastic atmosphere and thankfully the sun kept shining! It was great to speak with so many carers throughout the day and also a fantastic opportunity to network.”

Read more about the Hub on the [webpage](#).

Glasgow supports Carers Week with new video and Carer Strategy

From 10 to 16 June, we celebrated Carers Week to highlight the importance of Glasgow’s unpaid carers.

[Carers Week](#) is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring, highlight the challenges unpaid carers face and recognise the contribution they make to families and communities. This year’s theme, ‘Caring About Equality’, shined a light on the significant inequalities unpaid carers face, from increased risks of poverty and poor health to social isolation and a lack of access to opportunities.

Millions of people across the UK care, unpaid, for a friend or family member who due to illness, disability, a mental health condition or addiction cannot cope without their support.

Having a week dedicated to unpaid carers was an opportunity for our Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) to engage with both staff and the public to ensure that people who care for others know about the help and support that’s available to them.

In Glasgow, our [Local Carers Centres](#) raised awareness and organised activities for people who provide everyday unpaid support to friends, family and neighbours who can’t manage otherwise. The Glasgow South Carers Centre hosted celebratory events for the carers they support. This included a carers luncheon, afternoon wellbeing sessions throughout the week, health walks, samba drumming sessions and much more.

To further mark Carers Week, we launched our new [Carer Strategy 2025 to 2028](#). This strategy sets out our vision for Glasgow as a carer aware, carer friendly city where carers are recognised, listened to and supported to live well, while continuing in their caring roles.

Alongside the strategy, we’re also proud to launch a [new video](#), which powerfully captures what it means for a city to be carer aware. The video highlights the voices of local carers and the work being done across services, communities and organisations to build a more inclusive, supportive environment for carers. You can watch the video on our [HSCP’s YouTube Channel](#).

Fred Beckett, Carers Lead for our HSCP recognised the invaluable contribution of unpaid carers in Glasgow all year round. Fred said: “Carers Week is such an important time for all the carers in Glasgow to be recognised for all that they do every single day. If you’re caring for someone, remember that you’re not alone and our carers centres are there to support you. Get in contact



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with your local carer centre for more information or self-refer yourself by using the information below. There's help out there for you so please reach out."

If you want to know more about information and supports available to carers looking after someone in Glasgow, or want to help make Glasgow a carer friendly city, please visit www.yoursupportglasgow.org/carers.

News

We also regularly publish [news articles](#) and [briefings / bulletins](#) on our website about specific topics or work happening across our HSCP with partners – whether it be about current services, service developments or achievements to celebrate. If you would like to have something featured, please email GCHSCP_Communications@glasgow.gov.uk. Some recent news items include:

- [Unpaid carers sought to help shape the future of health and social care](#)
- [PCIP Newsletter](#)
- [First Minister visits Glasgow GP taking part in family wellbeing project](#)
- [Supporting breastfeeding in Glasgow](#)
- [Celebrating our volunteers](#)
- [New national campaign encourages people to consider fostering](#)
- [Understanding the Deaf Patient experience: combating loneliness and isolation](#)
- [Celebrating International Nurses Day 2025](#)
- [Glasgow City HSCP marks Mental Health Awareness Week](#)

Meetings & Events

We have regular meetings and events to discuss and / or make decisions about health and social care in Glasgow. More information about them with upcoming dates is available below:

- [Glasgow City Integration Joint Board \(IJB\)](#)
- [IJB Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee](#)
- [IJB Public Engagement Committee](#)



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