

1 INC ED ADMIN/CUBICLES - DAY (18) (16 00)
(CHARLIE, DAVID)
(MARY, NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

We come in on a busy Admin area - we see each cubicle is closed off into separate, clear polythene tents. Through them we can see

2a INC ED UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR / MEETING ROOM- DAY
(18) (16 03)
(CHARLIE, CONIE)

Charlie walks down a corridor (in scrubs, no mask) then he sees

4 INC ED ADMIN/CUBICLES - DAY (12) (12 00)
(CONNOR V.O)
(DLAN)

Caption - Days Since Lockdown 43

Intercut with scene 3 - DLAN (in scrubs, apron and glow

Casualty 35

Episode XI - Scene 5

INT ED CLINICAL LEAD OFFICE (CONT) / / ' 1 / DEd1 /-

6 INC ED RECEPTION - DAY (16) (12 10)
(CONNIE V.O.)
(NUEL)

Caption - Days Since Lockdown 16

Intercut with scene 3 - we see the sheepish looking NUEL (in civvies with a domestic mask) walking into Reception He's finding it hard to breath He takes a seat in the hot zone... he coughs. He's scared

CONNIE (V.O.)
I just didn't realise how many would get

7 INT. ED MEETING ROOM- DAY (18) (16 10)
(CONE, CHARLIE)

Then we're back with CONE in the Meeting Room, still glassy eyed, a bit frantic and on edge.

CONE

The ICU doctors have asked me to speak to the family - I don't know what to say. As soon as I do that they're going to withdraw care... And I'm not ready to let go.

CHARLIE

(gently)

Maybe you're too close to this...

CONE

(snaps)

Of course I am. This was going to be personal...

CHARLIE

Then take a step back, try and be objective... Ask yourself if you really right to keep fighting for it.

CONE

What's the alternative - I give up? I let them turn off his life support?

A moment, we see how torn up CONE is about the prospect of this decision.

CONE (CONT'D)

(with regret)

How did I let this happen?

CUT TO

8 INT. ED ADMIN/CUBICLES - DAY (1) (11:00)
(NEWS REPORT, EIHAN, RASH, CONNE, JACOB, CHARLIE, DAVID,
DMAN, WILL, ROSA, MARTY, NOEL, ROBYN)
(NS ELDERLY MALE PATIENT, NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

CAPTION - 12 Weeks Earlier - Days Before Lockdown 10

We see the confident CONNE walking into Admin - she's dressed smart, looking good. She is followed by JACOB.

At the Admin Desk we see EIHAN and RASH looking at their phones watching a news item on the state of Italian hospitals. CONNE and JACOB stop to look at it too.

NEWS REPORT

It was announced yesterday that the devastating death toll in Italy has exceeded 1000. As confirmed cases reach 15,000, hospitals in the North of the country are reporting worrying levels of admissions.

They are open mouthed, worried.

EIHAN

This is Italy, Modern, well-funded hospitals that are buckling under the pressure.

RASH looks, nods. We see the dread that fills them with. Almost instinctively, RASH gets antibac gel out of a dispenser...

RASH

(tries to be light - ironic)
Not at all worried.

We feel their sense of dread as EIHAN puts his phone away.

CONNE

(focused - reassuring)
We've got another meeting with the estate team this afternoon - we'll be as prepared as we can be.

She moves on with JACOB. EIHAN and RASH get back to work.

CONNE (CONT'D)

I suggest we set up the hot zone down here for anyone with a fever or respiratory illness. Separate entrance, separate team, completely isolated from the rest of the hospital.

JACOB

And make Cubicles 3 the cold zone.

Then we see CHARLIE with boxes of PPE - he's doing a stock check.

CHARLIE

Corrie, I think we're going to need to speak to procurement about daily deliveries of PPE

CONNIE

Why are we so low?

CHARLIE

We're not low- we're just low

CONNIE

(annoyed)

So that's us and the rest of the world trying to get our hands on the same stock at the same time?

CONNIE moves through to Reception leaving the despondent **CHARLIE** sorting through the stock. **JACOB** follows her.

DLAN crosses with **DAMD** who's just leaving an **NS ELDERLY MALE PATIENT** of Indian heritage.

DAMD

I think the patient in bay 3 is suffering from a UH. Need you to take a look

DLAN

Sure, of course.

WILL comes over.

WILL

(a bit hushed)

Gys - What are we making of this PPE situation - are we exposed here or what?

DLAN

If everyone learns to wash their hands and sneeze into their elbows like civilised people - we might be okay.

DAMD

I'm not taking any chances, got myself one of these online.

From behind the Admin Desk, **DAMD** pulls out a respirator mask

DLAN

Nice bit of kit - send me the link

They move on. **RCSA** passes, pushing a trolley with some boxes on. She sees **DAMD** with the mask, there's a second where he seems a bit daunted by it all.

RCSA

(gently)

You okay? All of this, the change to your routine...

DMD

(snaps out of it)

Yeah, totally...

(smile)

And the new role suits you by the way.

She heads off with her trolley and gives an affectionate smile back at him

Then we jump to **MIRY**, **ROBYN** and **NOEL**.

MIRY

My flight to Ibiza in June. Happening?
Not happening?

NOEL

(passing)

Casualty 35

10 OMTIED

FAITH

We can't take any chances, I'll speak to
Corrie

They head off. FENSHA is left considering their words. She sees
JAN coming out of Admin FENSHA takes a breath and heads over.

FENSHA

Hey... I think I need to go home and self-
isolate

JAN

Not showing symptoms are you?

FENSHA

(awkward)

No, I'm fine. I'm kind of in a vulnerable
category...

JAN

Vulnerable? Love what's wrong?

We see FENSHA's hand is instinctively resting on her stomach, she
hesitates, flounders... and decides to lie

FENSHA

I'm asymptomatic... it's mostly mild, but
I've had to come to hospital a few times
in the last year...

JAN

You never said

FENSHA

(makes light)

You know, keep my private life
private... but now what with everything

13 INT. ED ADMIN CUBICLES - DAY (2) (11:45)
(CONT)

14 INC ED MEETING ROOM- DAY (18) (16 20)
(CONE, CHARLIE)

CONE carries the weight of 12 long weeks of unprecedented pressure as she thinks back to that moment.

CONE

People's faces... the trust they placed in me. Did I believe those words? Maybe, I don't know felt like I was making it up as we went along still am..

CHARLIE

(more forceful)

The whole country, the whole has been caught sleeping on this...

(gets firm)

I'm not going to let you blame yourself.

CONE

It's all such a blur - why this is so hard

CHARLIE

You're letting the negativity cloud your judgement...

CONE

Because there's so much of it.

CHARLIE

And we

RASH (CONT'D)

And hopefully you'll be back on that bike
in no time - your blood pressure's a bit
on the low side. But your oxygen
saturation is normal - it should be safe
for you to go home and self isolate.

ANTHONY

And when you say 'self isolate'...

RASH

That means you don't go out of the house,
you don't have contact with anyone else.
You still live with your dad?

ANTHONY

Yes - he's shielding because of his
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.

RASH

Of course - right - You going to need
to keep away from him as well. Give me a
minute and I'll come explain how that
could work.

ANTHONY

(staic)

A minute - right - 60 seconds to use the
little boys room..

RASH heads to the Admin Station. And behind him we see **ANTHONY**
collapsing on his way to the toilet. He crashes down, we hear the
thud, he's on the floor, struggling to breathe. **RASH** hurries over. **hud**

16 CUTTED

17 INC ED RESUS / RESUS CORRIDOR - NIGHT (4) (20 35)

(CONNIE, RASH, ROBYN)
(ANTHONY, NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

CONNIE is in Resus looking at an Xray - big dark patches across his lungs. RASH is with her - they're in full PPE ANTHONY is now intubated on the bed Both CONNIE and RASH are in scrubs with no mask, everyone in Resus is in full PPE though

CONNIE
(stunned)
The damage to his lungs... I don't know
how he walked himself in here.

We see this troubles CONNIE - for the first time in the pandemic she's on the back foot.

RASH
I've done a quick look into this and it
seems like silent hypoxia is emerging as
a common feature of Covid - I don't think
we can rely on sats anymore.

CONNIE
So we do a blood gas as a fail-safe?

RASH
Yes - every time.

CONNIE
Okay, you've got it.
(looks back to ANTHONY)
Are you okay to speak to his father?

RASH
What do I tell him?

CONNIE
Be honest

We see RASH is going to find this hard - he looks to ANTHONY - his prognosis isn't great.

CONNIE moves into the Resus Corridor. ROBYN (in scrubs, no mask) arrives behind her in PPE

ROBYN
Connie - we've already sent similar
patients home. High sats, no blood gas.
Shall I call them back in?

CONNIE
I'm sorry, we don't have the time to
treat and process all those patients if
they're not critical. We have to keep
moving forward.

ROBYN

But what if they're like him?

CONNIE

We just have to hope that we made good assessments at the time - and if we did it... they'll come back through the doors.

ROBYN

In an ambulance.

CONNIE

(heavy heart)

Maybe - yes.

ROBYN finds this tough. But has to accept it. As **CONNIE** turns to go, we see a flicker from her... she's finding this harder than she's letting on.

CUT TO

17a INE ED ICU - NIGHT (1) (12 37)
(RASH, ANTHONY, NS ICU DOCTORS)

Caption - Days Since Lockdown 23

We see ANTHONY on a bed in an ICU suite. He's flatlined. The ICU doctors (in full PPE) start to disconnect his life support.

Then we pick up RASH (scrubs, no mask) who was looking on from outside the suite. He's streaming tears. Can't believe he's gone.

CUT TO

KARLA
It's Charlie, you remember Charlie - 'if you were twenty years younger'. That's what you said

DORIS
(laughs)
Oh yeah, Charlie

Again DORIS wheezes as she takes in breath

CHARLIE
Hello Doris.

CHARLIE goes to his patient as NEL walks away. DLAN comes over to her, he looks hassled and serious.

DLAN
Right - from the Xray it looks like the hip isn't broken. But as you're immobile, I would like to do a CT scan. Let's see if we can get you doing backflips again

DORIS
Look at that he made a joke.

KARLA
(with affection)
Can you do anything about her raging sarcasm?

DLAN
I could do you a deal on a box of sedatives.

DLAN fights an amused smile. Despite her bravado, DORIS is quite frail, and as she laughs, and it turns into a cough, and a bit of a wheeze.

CUT TO

ROBYN
We stop

JADE
(horri fied)
No, no we can t.

CHARLIE
I know this goes against every instinct,
but we've all seen the guidelines and
predicted outcomes.

JADE
(still confused)
This isn't right.

CHARLIE
We're all adjusting to the new
directives.

But it's all moving too fast for JADE. She can't understand
because she can't hear or lipread

JADE
What, what?

DLAN
(more blunt)
We're in the middle of a pandemic here.
We have to make realistic and difficult
decisions. Some people just don't have
the reserve to wake up from ventilation

ROBYN then speaks and does a simple sign for JADE

ROBYN
I'm sorry.

JADE is flushed, but has to fight her tears.

DLAN
I'm going to call it.
(heavy heart)
Time of death 14 02

They stop what they're doing. JADE is struggling not to break. A
long beat as they absorb the impact of her death.. Then JADE
turns and leaves Resus. DLAN turns to CHARLIE, he's a little bit
awkward

DLAN (CONT'D)
I hate these masks as much as anyone -
but if her hearing is going to affect her
ability to do the job - we might need to
reconsider her role.

CHARLIE takes a breath - he could be right.

CUT TO

22 OMTIED

23 INC ED MEETING ROOM- DAY (18) (16 30)

(CHARLIE)

(CONNIE)

We come in on the stunned looking CHARLIE - a long silence, we see how hard this was.

CHARLIE

Doris was at that care home for days
before she was diagnosed. We sent her
back there, a ticking timebomb, silently
spreading the disease..

He's choked up, emotional. CONNIE feels his pain

CUT TO

24 INC ED RESUS - DAY(6) (14 06)

(CONNIE)

(DLAN, DAVD, WILL, NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

Caption - Days Since Lockdown 14

The following scenes are part of a montage of Resus situations, our team are in full PPE throughout.

CONNIE, WILL, JACOB, ROBYN, MARIY, DAVD and CHARLIE at different times, all with different patients from the Hbly North Care Home - most of them men. DLAN and DAVD are in matching respirators.

Through it all we pick out CHARLIE, each death hits him hard

CONNIE

I'm calling the time of death

CUT TO

24a INC ED RESUS - DAY (7) (14 09)

(WILL)

(CHARLIE, ROBYN, MARY, NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

Then the caption rolls on a few days - Days Since Lockdown 15

We jump to another patient in Resus.

WILL

**CR commenced en route - but I now think
it's best if we stop**

CUT TO

25a IN ED UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - DAY (10) (21:35)

(WILL, CONNE)
(NS STAFF)

WILL is pacing upstairs, frustrated CONNE approaches carefully.

WILL

We're the same as them right, the care home residents - sitting ducks, just waiting to get infected. We pulled the labels off the PPE and it's two years out of date.

CONNE

The guidance from Public Health says it's still effective.

WILL

Yeah - their guidance left us unprotected for weeks. Marty's done 10 days straight without any let off. We're all going full-throttle, shift, no chance of a rest. And David and Dylan are walking round in respirator masks they bought themselves...

CONNE

(bites back)

If people have complaints.

WILL

(snaps back)

We've got complaints.

The riled CONNE has had enough of toying the party line. She snaps back at him

CONNE

Don't make me the bad guy here. I'm under

Casualty 35

27 INC ED MEETING ROOM/ CORRIDOR - DAY (18) (16 37)
(CHARLIE, DAVD)
(CONNIE)

As CHARLIE comes out of the meeting room he sees DAVD DAVD (in scrubs, no mask) looks through the glass and sees CONNIE starting to make the phone call, we can see she's struggling to hold it together.

CHARLIE
Difficult phone call.

DAVD
(understands)
You mean he's...?

CHARLIE nods - this hits DAVD hard.. He wells up as he watches CONNIE making the call.

CUT TO

30 INE ED MEETING ROOM/ CORRIDOR - DAY (18) (16 45)

(DAMD)

(CONE, CHARLIE, NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

CHARLIE and DAMD are leaning over the rail above the stairs, looking through to the Meeting Room where CONE is still on the phone, it's a difficult call. DAMD is sombre, thoughtful, he knows who she's calling and why...

DAMD

With the older patients, it was like we had a script of what to say, how to feel. But healthy people in their prime...

(fights emotion)

Key workers doing their best to keep the public safe, innocent kids... that's tough

And we know he's speaking from experience.

CUT TO

31 OMTIED

32 EXT/INT. ED MAIN ENTRANCE / RECEPTION - DAY
(11) (15 39)
(JACOB, LEV, ZOFIA, DAVID)
(NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS, NS PARAMEDIC)

Caption - Days Since Lockdown - 42

JACOB and MARIY (in full PPE) head to the ambulance. We see two other's queued up behind them. It's busier than it's ever been. We see JACOB adjusting his face mask as he walks. We see ZOFIA from the start of the episode, being wheeled out of the ambulance on a trolley by LEV and an NS PARAMEDIC in full PPE. ZOFIA, wearing a mask, groans as she's hit by a contraction. Then we see her wheezing and gasping for air.

JACOB
How far along is she?

LEV
Contractions under 2 minutes. Breathing worries me. Can't get her sats above 94% on 15 litres.

ZOFIA tries to sit up

LEV (CONT'D)
No - you need to lie down and keep the oxygen mask on

ZOFIA
(almost delirious)
My baby, don't infect my baby.

She lets out another deep man

JACOB
(to MARIY)
We need a doctor out here - she's in a bad state, about to go through a prolonged period of exertion

DAVID
You thinking she might need intubating?

LEV
Don't think we've got the time.

JACOB
I'm not sure her body will cope with labour when her sats are this low

ZOFIA
(distressed)
I'm only 7 months, why's this happening?

DMD
(phone)
What's the ETA on the crash team, okay...
(to EIHAN)
1 minute.

All eyes on EIHAN as he considers this, but a look at her dropping sats and shallowbreathing makes up his mind

EIHAN

Okay, okay, here we go Sit back, deep
breaths, okay, hold him close.

She sits back, clutching him to her chest. We're on her sobbing

34 INT. ED MEETING ROOM/ CORRIDOR - DAY (18) (16 50)

(EIHAN)

(CONE, CHARLIE)

CHARLIE and **EIHAN** are still overlooking the stairs, with one eye on the Meeting Room and **CONE**'s phone call. There's a seriousness to them; they know **CONE** is discussing a colleague. **CHARLIE** is

35 OMTIED

36 OMTIED

38 OMTIED

38a INT ED MEETING ROOM- DAY (18) (16 53)
(CHARLIE, CONE)

We see CONE putting the phone down, taking a breath, CHARLIE comes in with a cup of tea

CHARLIE
What did they say?

CONE
They trust the experts.
(beat - choked)
He didn't even tell anyone he was sick

That winds CHARLIE Takes a moment to process it.

CHARLIE
Protecting them I guess...

CONE
Avoiding a painful goodbye.

CHARLIE and CONE consider the tragedy of that.

CUT TO

39 INT ED HIC - NIGHT (17) (16 00)
(MIRY, KARLA, RCSA, EIHAN, JACOB)
(NS KARLA'S DAUGHTER, JACOB, NEL, NS STAFF, NS
PATIENTS)

Caption - Days Since Lock Down 58

Then we see KARLA the care home nurse. She's in the hospital bed looking weak, struggling with her breathing and tight chest. She has an oxygen mask on. MIRY is with her, she's holding a tablet computer. He's in full PPE.

MIRY
I'll give you some privacy.

She nods, tears in her eyes... as she makes a call. We see a man in his 40s answer, this is DEREK CAPELLE, her husband. MIRY hangs back for just a moment.

KARLA
They're going to put me on a ventilator.
I'm not improving.. this could be it.

MIRY leaves the cubicle as they both sob. He's finding this really hard. RCSA (in full PPE) comes over to MIRY.

RCSA
Calling her family

All he can do is nod - we see how hard he's finding this.

RCSA (CONT'D)
Did you want to give her one of these?

She has a pair of identical knitted hearts, like we saw in the scene with ZOFIA.

RCSA (CONT'D)
Volunteers have been making them. Me and the other Health Care Assistants have been handing them out. She takes one, we send the other to her kids... helps them feel connected.

He looks at them, looks to RCSA.

MIRY
These are lovely.

MIRY takes the hearts and very gently pulls back the curtain of her cubicle and looks in. We see KARLA, now feigning a big smile and we realise she's talking to her daughter.

KARLA
No sweetheart, Mum's going to be okay and I'll be home soon. I just need a machine to help me breathe for a little bit, that's all. Don't you worry.
(MIRY)

KARLA (CONT'D)
And look after Daddy for me. I love you
I love you both so much

We see DEREK is fighting tears as he hugs his daughter. KARLA finishes her call, and lies back, tears streaming. MARIY is choked.

MARIY
We can give you longer.

She shakes her head, fights tears, it's too painful.

MARIY (CONT'D)
I don't know if you've seen these...

He holds up the hearts, she nods. Walls up.

KARLA
I've been making them for the care home residents. I never thought, need one...

She desperately tries to hold back tears, and then needs to put her oxygen mask back on to help her breathe. And in the redness behind MARIY's eyes, we see how much of a challenge this is.

KARLA (CONT'D)
When they sedate me, is that it? I mean... they've explained it, but from that moment - I wake up... or I don't?

His silence says it all.

KARLA (CONT'D)
(rising panic)
And who takes me down there, the porters right, to Resus? And then it's an injection, like an anaesthetic, who's in the room? Who does it...?

MARIY wants to ease her despair.

MARIY
(gently)
Would you like me to come with you? I can be there the whole time.

She nods, tears flow. MARIY struggles.

Then we pick up EIHAN - he's at the Admin Desk - he looks up, sees someone, is surprised.

EIHAN
Back already?

And we reveal a healthy looking JACOB

nelo f Hg

40 INE ED CLINICAL LEAD OFFICE (CONNIE & JACOB) -
NIGHT (17) (16 05)
(JACOB, CONNIE)

JACOB (scrubs, no mask) comes into CONNIE's office with purpose.

JACOB

When is someone going to start talking about the fact that this virus is affecting a ton more patients from ethnic minorities than anyone else?

CONNIE

An official report is on the way.

JACOB

(back at her)

We don't need to wait for that. It's staring us in the face out there. Someone needs to tell them tell . Admit we're higher risk

CONNIE

How's that going to help unless we know why?

JACOB

If people like Noel and that care home worker, had known about the risks, they might have shouted louder when they were left in a vulnerable job without proper protective equipment.

CONNIE

(raw nerve)

When left him in a job without the proper protective equipment?

JACOB

I'm not saying . Bigger picture here, the NHS, society in general.

(losing it)

The most vulnerable roles are disproportionately filled by people from an ethnic minority... no one's looking out for them no one's protecting them

CONNIE

That's not true - this matters to , you know it does.

(at a loss)

But I don't know what you expect me to do about it .

JACOB

Shut with me, shout loud

CONNIE
(pointing to cubicles)
That's not going to help patients.

JACOB
And what about a second wave? What about another virus? What about a fundamental right to be treated equally?

And then her pager goes - CONNIE (scrubs, no mask) looks - her face falls, frustrations coming out.

CONNIE
We haven't got the time to stop and do a risk assessment.

JACOB
That's the point - time.

It's overwhelming for CONNIE, she takes a breath, backs down

CONNIE
You're right, of course you are, my head's exploding I'm feeling defensive...
(fights emotion)
And I'm just glad you're back, healthy, safe.

There's a moment when we can see how worried she was about JACOB
Then she sucks the emotion down

CONNIE (CONT'D)
(determined)
End of the shift, we'll talk, make a plan..

JACOB
Thank you

CONNIE takes a breath.. and heads out of the office.

CUT TO CONTINUOUS:

CONNIE

There's no reason to think like that -
you've got as good a chance as anyone
else.

He nods, gets it. And then the reality hits him for a moment.

NOEL

Might never see my grandkid

CONNIE is caught off guard by that, it makes her more emotional
than she expected. We see a crack in NOEL's bravado. He's scared.

CONNIE

Hey, when the world returns to normal,
when you're out of here. Let's do a
drink, a dinner... we've never really
done that.

(swallows emotion)

And we should

And we see NOEL is made up by that, it's what he's always wanted

NOEL

Sure..

(beat - cheeky)

You're paying right.

He chuckles and she laughs through her emotion as she walks off.

CUT TO

42 INC ED MEETING ROOM- DAY (18) (17:00)
(CHARLIE, CONE)

A calm, thoughtful CONE is getting up. Putting her chair away, preparing to go back into ICU. But she's still hesitating.. and CHARLIE can sense this.

CHARLIE
Tell me..

44 OMTIED

45 INC ED RECEPTION - DAY (18) (16 30)
(ROBYN JACOB, DAVID MARIY, JADE, LEV, JAN EIHAN
WILL, DLAN, RASH, RGA, CONNE, NS STAFF, NS
PATIENTS,)

Then we see the staff gathering in Reception (surgical masks and scrubs for everyone) at the bottom of the stairs all in PPE

ROBYN JACOB, DAVID MARIY, JADE, LEV, JAN EIHAN WILL, RGA, RASH.. and then finally we reveal a healthy DLAN joining them

They all look up to the stairs and see ZOFIA coming down. She's holding her baby in a car seat, she's ready to take him home. She has tears flooding down her face. Attached to the car seat are the matching knitted hearts finally reunited

Everyone starts to applaud and cheer the little boy's recovery.

Then we cut to the top of the stairs and see CONNE (scrubs, no mask) looking on. She's ready to go back into ICU

She walks away from the stairs, the clapping fades away behind her, and we see she's fighting tears.

JUMP CUT TO

INT ED ICU / ICU CORRIDOR - DAY (18) (18 10)

47 INC ED RECEPTION - DAY (18) (18 45)

(CHARLIE, CONE, ROBYN, EIHAN, JACOB, DLAN, RUSA)
(DLAN, CHARLIE, WILL, DAVID, MARTY, RASH, JADE, NS
PATIENTS, NS STAFF)

We pick up our regs in Reception, the team are receiving donated food - coffees and donuts.

We see the shattered CONE coming in, she looks a bit lost, looks to the team. she goes to speak but stops. Takes a breath. They look happy, upbeat. CHARLIE sees her, comes over.

CHARLIE

Are you.. [going to tell them]

CONE

They're on such a high..

She watches on, there's a good energy in the room, laughter, teamwork, friendship - this is going to crush them. CONE fights a tear. And then finally, she goes for it.

CONE (CONT'D)

Can I just get everyone's attention please?

People stop and look round. CONE looks broken, emotional, and in her scrubs (in contrast to the start of the episode) she looks like a doctor, not a manager.

When they see her they realise what's happened. Their joy fades, a seriousness hits them, a hush descends.

CONE (CONT'D)

Um er, right... yes.

She looks to CHARLIE who gives her a nod. We see there are tears in his eyes.

CONE (CONT'D)

(calm- straight)

This afternoon, in consultation with the ICU doctor, and after a lengthy phone call with his family. Noel was taken off life support. He passed away at 18 23

There are a few chokes of emotion, as people fight to be strong

CONE (CONT'D)

He was a much loved member of staff, first in and last out every shift. And I know he was a dear friend to you all. I personally can't imagine this place without him

We go round the rooms, the news sinks in. People torn up inside, and trying not to show it, they knew it was on the cards but the reality is hard to stomach

Then the red phone at the admin station starts ringing

CONNIE (CONT'D)

With the exec, I've discussed the option of a divert to St James'. It may help at the moment.

ROBYN

(emotional - but strong)

We're here now we've just... started a night shift.

CONNIE

The team at St James' are happy to help

ETHAN

They've lost people too

Then JACOB answers the phone

JACOB

Go ahead Okay, okay

DMIAN

Last time I checked there was still a global health crisis.

ROBYN

And Noel would finish his shift.

RCSA

Always.

JACOB hangs up the phone. They all look to him

JACOB

We've got a multi-vehicle RIC Three patients en route. 2 critical.

(beat)

We're all in shock, let's be kind, look after each other tonight, and show Noel what a team we are.

And the department springs back into action, everyone jumps to it. Wiping back tears where they need to. Some closer to breaking than others. But all of them working. We follow them through Admin around Reception, back helping patients and doing their jobs.

CUT TO

