Scottish Breast Screening Programme Milestones 1985-2010

1985 Minister for Health, Ken Clarke MP convenes the Forrest Committee chaired by Professor Sir Patrick Forrest to report on the screening of breast cancer

1986 Forrest Report published and concludes that ‘screening by mammography can lead to prolongation of life for women aged 50 and over’

1988 Breast screening programme begins inviting women in Scotland aged 50-64 for screening once every three years – one single medio-lateral oblique view mammography

1989 Quality Assurance Reference Committee (QARC) established in Scotland

1988 The first static breast screening centre becomes operational in May 1988

1991 The Scottish Breast Screening Programme IT system is rolled out

1991 Final static screening centre established – 7 static centres and 9 mobile units are now operational

1994 First round of screening complete

1995 Department of Health announces the introduction of two view mammography for the first screening

1999 First integrated screening and symptomatic unit established in Ninewells Hospital Dundee Commissioning of the Scottish Breast Screening Programme transferred to NSD

1994 First round of screening complete

1999 Scottish Breast Screening Programme IT system redeveloped to be Y2K compliant

1999 The extension of the upper eligible age range for breast screening to 70 years is recommended

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2007 The Scottish Government affirms its commitment to the implementation of two view screening at every screening appointment by April 2010

2010 Implementation of two view screening at every screening appointment complete

2008 NHS Breast Screening Programme in Scotland celebrates its 20th Anniversary

2005 Second integrated screening and symptomatic unit established in Raigmore Hospital Inverness

2010 6 static breast screening and assessment centres operational in Scotland

2004 The extension of the upper eligible age range for breast screening to 70 years is rolled out in Scotland. This expansion is to be phased in throughout the country over a three year round of screening. Women over 70 years will be screened three yearly on request

2002 Scottish Breast Screening Programme IT system redeveloped to be Y2K compliant The two operational West of Scotland Breast Screening units merge to form one single unit

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