



12 February 2021

## **Hampshire and Isle of Wight COVID-19 Vaccination Programme Briefing**

### **Vaccination programme update**

We are very pleased to report that more than 400,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine have now been delivered to our communities in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Across the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care System (ICS) and Frimley Health and Care ICS more than 93% of people aged 80 and over have received their first dose. A breakdown of vaccination figures by NHS region and Integrated Care Systems/ Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships is available [here](#) and is regularly updated.

We continue to perform very well in terms of vaccination rates across South East and in other parts of the country and remain on track to meet the Government's ambition of offering everyone in the first four priority groups identified by the [Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation \(JCVI\)](#) a first dose of the vaccine by Monday (15 February).

This achievement is testament to the incredible ongoing efforts of colleagues, volunteers and partners who continue to work at pace to deliver the vaccination programme locally. We continue to receive positive feedback from our communities about their experiences and we would like to extend our thanks to everyone involved in supporting the programme.

A further COVID-19 vaccination service is due to open at The Harlington in Fleet town centre next week, providing additional choice for residents in Fleet who are registered with Branksomewood Medical Centre, Fleet Medical Centre and Richmond Surgery. Frimley Health and Care ICS has confirmed that the majority of Fleet residents in the first four priority groups have now had their first dose of the vaccine. The Harlington site will therefore offer vaccine appointments for the next priority cohort of patients identified by the JCVI (starting with those aged 65 and over) once national guidance has been issued to begin offering the vaccine to this group. Further information is available [here](#).

This additional service will bring the total number of vaccination sites across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight to 64. Information on all available sites can be found [here](#).

### **Roll-out of the vaccination programme**

Delivering the vaccine to individuals in priority groups 1-4, as identified by the JCVI, remains our absolute priority. These groups are:

- care home residents and staff
- those aged 80 and over and frontline health and social care workers
- those aged 75 and over
- those aged 70 and over and clinically extremely vulnerable individuals

We continue to do all we can to encourage everyone eligible for the vaccine to take up the offer of an appointment. This includes ongoing work with our health and care partners to reduce any potential inequalities related to the vaccination programme.

Anyone aged 80 or over who has not yet received their first dose of the vaccine for any reason, for example due to ill health, is being contacted and followed up. We also continue to contact those aged 70 and over and people who are clinically extremely vulnerable to offer them the vaccine.

Individuals aged 70 and over who have not yet been invited to be vaccinated but would like to be are also being asked to contact the NHS to arrange an appointment following a [national announcement](#) earlier this week.

People had previously been asked to wait until they were contacted by the NHS to ensure that those who are most at risk from COVID-19 are protected first. However those aged 70 and over can now contact the NHS directly in one of the following ways if they have not yet received an invitation, to ensure that as many people in priority groups 1-4 as possible can be vaccinated by 15 February:

- By visiting the national booking service at [www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination](http://www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination)
- By calling 119 free of charge between 7am and 11pm seven days a week
- If a suitable and convenient slot is not available people can also call their GP practice.

### **How the vaccine is delivered**

Everyone invited to have the vaccine will need an appointment, including those aged 70 and over who have not yet received an invitation and contact the NHS directly.

Most people who are invited by letter will have the opportunity to go onto the national booking system and book an appointment slot or call 119. If people are initially unable to book an appointment at their local vaccination centre, they should continue to check the booking system as more slots are regularly added.

If an individual receives more than one invitation, such as a letter inviting them to attend a vaccination centre or pharmacy where applicable, an invitation from their GP or to attend their local hospital, they can choose where they would like to attend. This is to ensure that we offer as much choice and convenience as possible. However if an individual has made an appointment and then decides to attend another site, it is important that they cancel one of the appointments to enable us to offer the slot to someone else and ensure that as many people as possible are vaccinated.

Individuals who are offered the choice of attending a pharmacy when they receive their invitation letter can make an appointment or wait to be contacted by their GP and arrange to be vaccinated at a GP-led or hospital site if they prefer.

Everyone awaiting a vaccination invitation is reminded to:

- make sure they are registered with a GP practice
- ensure their GP practice has up-to-date contact details for them – especially a mobile phone number if they have one. This makes it quicker and easier for us to get in touch. There is no need to call us with this information, it can be updated online through the practice website

### **Following national guidance**

It remains as important as ever that we all continue to follow the national guidance to help reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission and:

- stay at home as much as possible
- wear a face covering when out in the community
- observe social distancing measures
- continue to wash hands regularly

### **Frequently asked questions**

We continue to update the frequently asked questions on our [website](#). If you have a query that is not answered in our frequently asked questions, please email the Hampshire and the Isle of Wight Vaccination Team at [whccg.covid.vaccination.enquiries@nhs.net](mailto:whccg.covid.vaccination.enquiries@nhs.net).

### **Further information**

We will continue to provide regular updates on the vaccination programme. Additional information including previous editions of this update are available on our [webpages](#).

- For more information on the vaccine, please visit [www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination](http://www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination).
- Vaccination uptake figures for the UK is published on a daily and weekly basis [here](#)
- An easy read information leaflet about the COVID-19 vaccination is available [here](#)
- Follow and share messages from our social media accounts:
  - Twitter: [@HIOW\\_CCGs](#) / [@NHSSotonCityCCG](#) / [@portsmouthCCG](#) / [@NEHFCCG](#)
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