

Covid-19 vaccination programme: Stakeholder briefing

Thursday 1 April 2021



Gill May,
Director of Nursing and
Quality

"It seems like our vaccination programme reaches a new milestone each week, with this week being no exception.

"More than half a million vaccines have now been given in Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire – a feat that I know many of us would have thought impossible just a few months ago.

"It's a phenomenal achievement and, puts us well on our way to providing a first vaccine dose to all those who are eligible by the summer.

"When the vaccination programme started in early December, I remember describing it as a marathon and not a sprint and, as with all long distance races, there are times when the pace has to slow down.

"This is where we find ourselves currently, with our large vaccination centres at Bath Racecourse and Salisbury City Hall temporarily closing during the beginning part of this month.

"However, the national supply issues which prompted this action have not stopped us from focusing on other important areas, such as providing second doses where needed and expanding our outreach programme.

"After the Easter weekend, a new mobile vaccination clinic will take to the roads of our region and help bring the vaccine to communities where the number of people being vaccinated has been low.

"We'll also be launching a vaccination boat, which will help bring the vaccine to those people living on the waterways of the Kennet and Avon canal.

"So, while we may have slowed down in some areas, we are pressing full steam ahead in others, and I'd like to once again say thank you to all our partners for their continued support and help in making this vaccination programme so successful."

At a glance: the latest coronavirus vaccine developments in BSW

- As of Tuesday 30 March, our vaccine teams have carried out a total of 505,910 vaccinations
- Around 14 per cent of this total of more than half a million vaccinations has come from the Steam Museum in Swindon, which delivered its 70,000th vaccine on Thursday 1 April

- The large vaccination centre at Bath Racecourse will temporarily close on Sunday 4 April, and reopen again on Monday 12 April. It will also be closed on Friday 16 April
- Salisbury City will also close for vaccinations at the end of the day on Wednesday 31 March, and reopen again on Monday 12 April
- More than two thirds of all people with a learning disability in Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire have been vaccinated, and we are working hard to ensure that this can be increased to 100 per cent as quickly as possible
- Three quarters of all carers in the region have been vaccinated, and we continue to encourage those yet to come forward to speak to their GP about getting the vaccine
- We are delighted to announce that a recent recruitment drive for new vaccination staff has been successful, and we expect to have several hundred new vaccinators on hand across the patch towards the end of this month

Vaccination progress to date

