

Covid-19 vaccination programme: Stakeholder briefing

Thursday 20 May 2021



Gill May,
Director of Nursing and
Quality

“The latest easing of restrictions took place this week, and I’m sure you will agree that the roadmap out of lockdown has been greatly supported by the successful rollout of the coronavirus vaccine, here and elsewhere across the country.

“While this is fantastic news, it’s important to remember that the vaccination programme is not done and dusted, and there is still a real need for people to come forward and get vaccinated when eligible to do so.

“Our teams working out of our mobile vaccination clinic saw an elderly gentleman this week who, despite being in his 80s, had still yet to receive a first dose.

“A number of different reasons had prevented him from getting to a vaccination centre when first invited earlier in the year and, while he is now protected, we know there are others like him.

“Fortunately, this number is low but, even so, we must not lose sight that behind each statistic is a real person who could potentially become seriously ill if they come into contact with coronavirus without having had the vaccine.

“It’s for this reason we are also encouraging those over 50 and yet to have the vaccine to book.

“We totally understand that some people will be apprehensive, and perhaps confused by the amount of information out there, but I very much want to reassure people that help and support is available for anyone feeling nervous at each of our vaccination centres.

“Elsewhere this week, the team at the Steam Museum in Swindon were treated to a surprise visit from celebrity adventurer Bear Grylls, who spent an afternoon volunteering at the site.

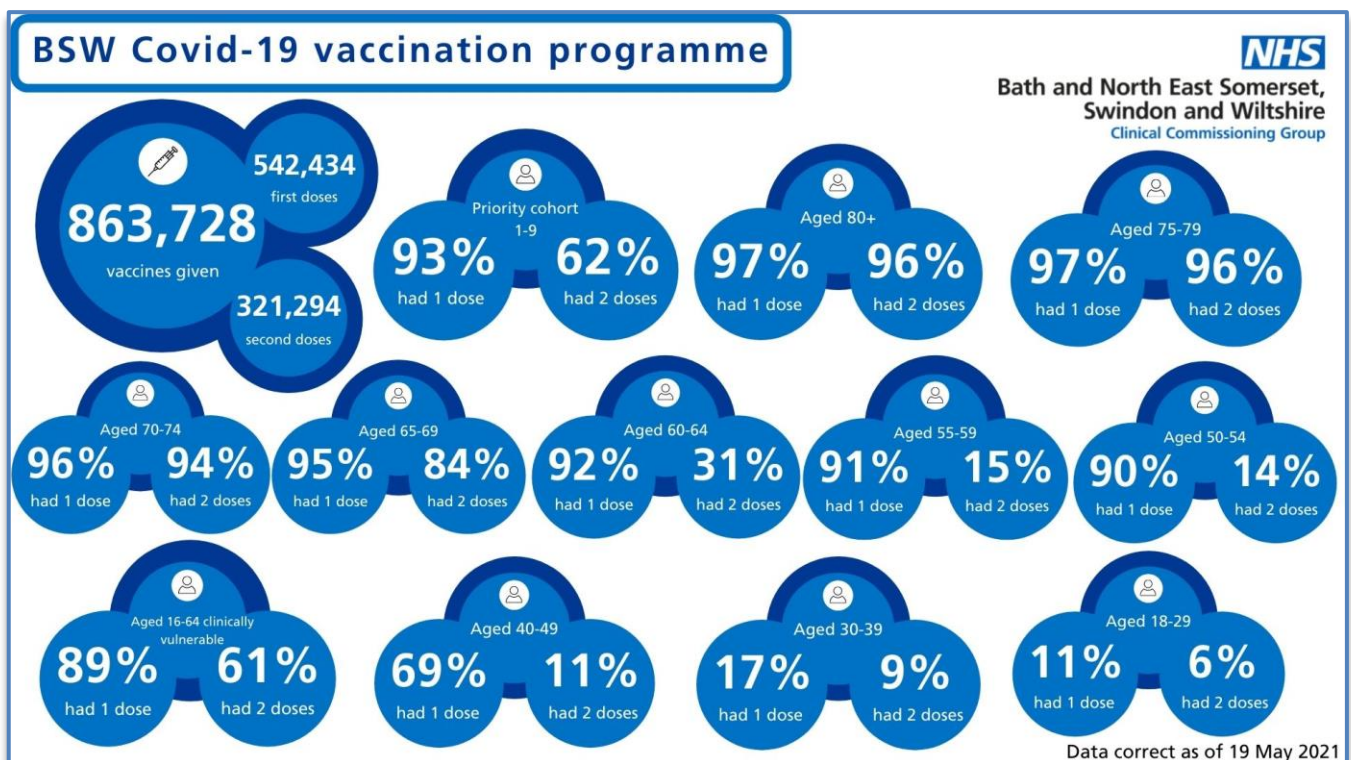
“Bear chatted to staff, volunteers and patients and saw first-hand what it was like to help out at one of the busiest vaccination centres in the country.”

At a glance: the latest coronavirus vaccine developments in BSW

- As of Wednesday 19 May, our vaccine teams have carried out a total of 863,728 vaccinations, made up of 542,434 first doses and 321,294 second doses

- In the week following the government’s announcement to open the vaccine invite to people in their 30s, we are pleased to say that almost one in five people aged between 30 and 39 in our region have received their first dose
- More than two thirds of people in their 40s have also had their first vaccine, with a further one in ten having had both doses
- The public email address for vaccine queries closed down this week, and people with questions will now be redirected to the extensive FAQ section on the CCG’s website
- We continue to make preparations to meet the government’s aim of now providing second doses within eight weeks of the first
- Extra capacity at existing sites, such as Bath Racecourse, as well as the introduction of new locations, such as community pharmacies, are helping us to do this
- The mobile vaccination clinic gave the vaccine to more than 160 people while based in Bath and North East Somerset last week, and our outreach work is continuing elsewhere with dedicated clinics for homeless happening in Salisbury and Swindon, as well as the floating vaccination clinic beginning its return journey to provide second doses to members of our boating community

Vaccination progress to date



Bear Grylls visits the Steam Museum in Swindon



