

Covid-19 vaccination programme: Stakeholder briefing

Thursday 25 March 2021



Gill May,
Director of Nursing and
Quality

“As I write this weekly update, I’m proud to say that nearly half a million vaccines have been given out across Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire.

“There is still a long way to go, and there will be challenges ahead, but let’s not forget just how much we have achieved in what is still a short amount of time.

“As you will have no doubt seen in the national news, the incoming supply of coronavirus vaccine to the UK is set to reduce over the coming weeks.

“Although this is something that is out of our control, we are doing all we can to utilise what vaccine supply we have, so as many people as possible can receive the vaccine they need before the end of this month.

“A reduced vaccine supply also means we have to adapt our current working arrangements, so that the valuable time of our clinicians is not wasted.

“As such, our large vaccination centres at Bath Racecourse and Salisbury City Hall will temporarily close at the beginning of April. This should not affect our vaccine progress, as the delay only impacts our ability to start vaccinating those aged between 16 and 50.

“We always knew that this vaccination programme would require us to work flexibly, and we are now working to rearrange the appointments of all people booked to be vaccinated on the affected days.

“Please be reassured that this closure is temporary, and we will return to full speed as soon as it possible to do so. During this short period, we will be using these sites to induct and train our new starters who will support the vaccination programme in the future.

“Should you have any queries about this news, please get in touch by sending an email to bswccg.vaccinequery@nhs.net.”

At a glance: the latest coronavirus vaccine developments in BSW

- 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

- As of Wednesday 24 March, our vaccine teams have carried out a total of 445,483 vaccinations
- More than 97 per cent of all people aged 80 and over in our region have been given the coronavirus vaccine
- Work is happening behind the scenes to futureproof the availability of many of our vaccination sites, including Bath Racecourse, Salisbury City Hall and Steam Museum in Swindon
- All appointment slots at Bath Racecourse and Salisbury City Hall up until the end of March have been fully allocated, which highlights the work taking place to utilise all available vaccine supply before the expected shortage next month
- Appointments for second doses are expected to continue throughout April
- We continue to share messages with our public about the safety of the vaccine, and that any minor side effects which develop as a result of being vaccinated is entirely normal and no cause of concern
- In the next few weeks, we are expecting to see a mobile vaccination clinic take to the roads and canals of BSW, which will be able to bring the coronavirus vaccine to various communities in our region

Vaccination progress to date

