

Covid-19 vaccination programme: Stakeholder briefing

Thursday 29 April 2021



Gill May,
Director of Nursing and
Quality

“This week saw the government open up coronavirus vaccinations to all people over the age of 42.

“This is a clear sign the rollout of the vaccine is continuing at great speed, and that should be a comfort to all of us who are desperate to see loved ones, and restart our normal, everyday lives.

“However, this latest announcement should be seen in context of where we currently are in our vaccination timetable, which is in a period of reduced vaccine supply.

“It means that some people in our area who have received their invitation letter this week have been unable to secure vaccination appointments locally, which has led to some frustration among those keen to receive the vaccine.

“We totally understand this frustration, and are doing all we can to ensure all our vaccination sites are able to fill their appointment slots but, as always, we remain reliant on vaccine supplies.

“Things are expected to pick up in the coming weeks, and there is also hope that all our vaccination sites will soon be added to the National Booking System, so we ask people to bear with us as we progress through this tricky period.

“Elsewhere, the last week has seen our mobile vaccination clinic take to the road, beginning its journey in Swindon.

“Having this clinic on wheels means we can take the vaccine to specific communities in which we know there is a high level of vaccine hesitancy and where people are unable to travel to an established vaccine clinic.

“Already, more than 160 people have had their vaccine from the mobile clinic, and we hope that more people will follow suit over the next few weeks.”

At a glance: the latest coronavirus vaccine developments in BSW

- As of Wednesday 28 April, our vaccine teams have carried out a total of 690,732 vaccinations
- There has been an average of around 7,000 vaccines given during each day of the last week, with teams continuing to prioritise second doses

- More than 92 per cent of all people aged 80 and over in Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire have now had both doses of the coronavirus vaccine
- Getting the vaccine to people who would otherwise miss out continues to be a top priority, and we are proud to report that more than 220 rough sleepers have now been able to get protected through our dedicated clinics for homeless people
- The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation has now updated its guidance to pregnant women to say that mothers-to-be should receive the vaccine at the same time as others of the same age or risk group
- Pregnant women, however, should only be offered the vaccines produced by either Pfizer or Moderna, and any concerned mothers-to-be should speak with their GP for more information
- Feedback from our GP colleagues has shown that some people are visiting different vaccine clinics for their second doses, and we would ask partners to help us remind local people that, wherever possible, the second dose should be given in the same location as the first

Vaccination progress to date

