

Covid-19 vaccination programme: Stakeholder briefing

Thursday 18 February 2021



Gill May,
Director of Nursing and
Quality

“At the weekend we reached our milestone of over 200,000 vaccinations given to the first priority groups. To have reached such a milestone in the space of just eight weeks is completely phenomenal, and I applaud every single person who has helped to make this achievement possible.

“However, while it is hugely important for us to take time to reflect on how far we’ve come, we mustn’t think that the fight is over as there is still a long way to go, and a vast number of people still waiting patiently to be vaccinated.

“Getting the vaccine into the arms of the people most at-risk from coronavirus continues to be our top priority, and I hope that each and every person who is contacted over the next few weeks takes up the vaccination offer without hesitation.

We are now moving onto cohort 5 and 6 which will see all over 65s able to book a vaccination appointment while GPs will be focussing on contacting anyone over 16 who is clinically extremely vulnerable”

At a glance: the latest coronavirus vaccine developments in BSW

- This weekend we exceeded our target of vaccine 200,000 people in the first 4 priority cohorts
- NHS England publishes the [weekly vaccination figures for each CCG area](#) online every Thursday, and these provide a detailed breakdown of vaccine uptake by age group
- Any person aged 65 or over can now book their own vaccination appointment either online at www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination or over the phone by calling 119
- GPs are now being asked to focus on inviting the clinically extremely vulnerable aged 16 and over.

- In addition unpaid carers and some foster parents will also form part of cohort 6 and the detail of how this will work is being developed. In BSW GPs are also being asked to contact those with Learning Disabilities as part of cohort 6, this cohort includes anyone aged 16 years to 64 years.
- Anyone in cohorts 1-4 who for any reason has not yet had their jab can still come forward and book an appointment.
- We are pleased to announce that another pharmacy led vaccination site will be opening soon in Highworth and other sites are being discussed
- Work has now been intensified to reach out to the BAME community to address concerns about the vaccination programme.
- We understand how keen many people are to get vaccinated but it is important that the JCVI cohort guidance is followed. This means that the vast majority of the early years and childcare workforce do not meet the criteria for vaccination. Those booking slots inappropriately should remember that they will need to provide recognised identification at the vaccine sites and if not in the cohorts they will be turned away. This both wastes the individuals' time but also potentially denies a more vulnerable person the opportunity to be vaccinated.