

14 January 2021

Briefing Update:
Covid-19 Vaccination Programme

Rollout of local COVID-19 vaccination services

Across the country, people 80 years of age and over, care home staff and residents as well as NHS staff considered to be at risk are being offered vaccination in line with [JCVI recommendations](#).

Nationally the ambition, if supplies allow, is to have offered vaccines to the most vulnerable 13 million people by the middle of February.

To make it as easy as possible for those who are eligible to access a vaccination safely, we have now completed the set-up of all 11 Local Vaccination Services across Frimley Health and Care ICS.

The complete list is:

- Salt Hill, Slough
- Lakeside Country Club, Frimley Green
- Monteagle Surgery, Yateley
- Farnham Centre for Health, Farnham
- Desborough Suite, Maidenhead
- Windsor Racecourse, Windsor
- Waitrose Sports Hall, Bracknell
- Princes Hall, Aldershot
- Southwood Practice, Farnborough
- Langley Health Centre, Slough
- Birch Hall Surgery, Bracknell

Additional vaccine deliveries are expected at the above sites, and these Local Vaccination Services will continue to focus on the top priority cohorts.

To ensure that waste is minimised, vaccinations are clustered across Primary Care Networks or high volume sites, ensuring that the numbers of people that each facility is able to see in one week, is in line with the stock they receive.

Roll out of Vaccination Centres

Now that more doses of Covid-19 vaccine are available, the NHS is able to open Vaccination Centres like the one at [Epsom Racecourse](#), which offer the physical space to deal with large numbers of people coming to get vaccinated while maintaining social distancing. We are planning to open a Vaccination Centre in our local area next week.

Vaccination appointments – by invitation only

Letters of invitation for the Vaccination Centres are sent from the NHS Covid-19 Vaccination Booking Service, to those over the age of 80, living within 45 minutes of a Vaccination Centre. The letter explains that people may have also been contacted by their GP practice and if they have, they can choose to either book through their GP practice or through the national booking service. People must book one appointment only and cancel the appointment they are not going to attend, to avoid vaccine wastage and ensure we can reach as many people as we can as quickly as possible.

The NHS is inviting eligible people in a phased basis as supplies of the vaccine allow, so it is possible that where two eligible people are living in the same house, one receives a letter before the other. In such cases, people can wait and book at the same time if they wish.

Those who are housebound will be contacted by their GP services about alternative ways to get vaccinated. People can also wait until more locations closer to where they live become available – for most people, their local GP practice will be the closest to them. The NHS will follow up with people that haven't booked their appointment, as a reminder.

Attending vaccination appointments in lockdown

Getting the COVID-19 vaccine, or any other vaccine, is an important medical appointment and attending your scheduled vaccination appointment, is within the rules wherever you live. Vaccinations will continue as normal in all areas through the national lockdown and beyond. When booked or are offered an appointment, people should attend it.

Vaccinating care homes

The vaccination of staff and care home residents is progressing well and the feedback received has been overwhelmingly positive with the vaccine seen as a means through which, at the right time, people may be able to see their loved ones again.

How you can help

Our GP surgeries are still reporting their phone lines being blocked by patients and their family members calling to ask when they will get the vaccine. We need your help to please share the information below, as practices are being hindered from making outgoing calls, booking appointments, or taking calls from those who need urgent care, if people continue to call to ask about the vaccine.

We are vaccinating patients as fast as we can; however, there is still a limit to the pace of delivery. Please do not call the practice to ask why you haven't been invited, or assume that you've been missed because your neighbour has already had their vaccine.

Your support in reiterating these key messages with your local population will be most appreciated:

- please don't contact the NHS to seek a vaccine, we will contact you;
- when we do contact you, please attend your booked appointments;
- and please continue to follow all the guidance to control the virus and save lives.

Keep abreast of vaccination updates

- For more information on the vaccine, please visit www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination
- Figures on vaccination uptake for the UK will be published on a weekly basis on the [PHE coronavirus data dashboard](#).
- Frimley Health and Care Integrated Care System website [here](#) for public information leaflets and latest news
- Follow and share messages from our social media accounts:
 - Facebook - @FrimleyHealthandCare
 - Twitter - @FrimleyHC