

Covid-19 vaccination programme: Stakeholder briefing

Friday 28 May 2021



Gill May,
Director of Nursing and
Quality

“Thirty-year-olds across our region, as well as those in all other areas of the country, have started to receive invites for their coronavirus vaccine.

“This latest move is a turning point in the vaccination programme, as it marks the start of us providing the vaccine to those considered least likely to fall seriously ill with Covid-19.

“We are very conscious that as new age groups are invited some people are still trying to get their vaccination and some are having to wait a few weeks for an appointment date.

“In addition, some older people and the more vulnerable may still be worried or apprehensive to have the vaccine.

“This inevitably creates a level of inequity, but I can assure you we are working with primary care to identify all those who are eligible to ensure they are invited and supported to attend.

“I have received emails directly from people who are finding it difficult to book or concerned some people may be queue jumping.

“We endeavour to look into each case, and we have been able to resolve many of the problems, and I would like to thank you all for your patience and understanding as we work to improve access to the vaccine, while doing everything possible to make sure only those who are eligible receive the vaccine.

“Seeing greater numbers of younger people come forward for their vaccine in recent weeks is a huge contrast from where we were six months ago, when nearly all our patients were aged over 80, some of whom were very frail.

“The model in which we delivered the vaccine was set nationally, and included setting up the large vaccine centres, primary care sites and hospital hubs.

“As we move to invite our younger population, we have been required to review the model of delivery.

“The review will allow some of our non-clinical venues to return to their pre-covid uses, while also enabling a number of our GP-led sites to change their focus from vaccinating to providing much-needed everyday care.

“However, we are still dedicated to the vaccination programme and ensuring that provision is maintained, which is why new pharmacy-based venues will be added to the fold over the next few weeks, with extra capacity also being incorporated into many of our existing sites.

“The first of these new pharmacies will begin providing the vaccine this week, in areas such as Bath city centre, Combe Down and Lyneham in the north of Wiltshire.

“To those sites that are leaving the programme, I would like to say thank you for all the dedication, determination and professionalism that has been shown since the vaccinations started at the beginning of December.

“We’ve come an incredibly long way in what is still a very short time, and none of this would have been possible without the input of each vaccination site. Going forward, I know that we can keep the momentum up and ensure that every person in our region is offered this lifesaving vaccine.”

At a glance: the latest coronavirus vaccine developments in BSW

- As of Wednesday 26 May, our vaccine teams have carried out a total of 925,650 vaccinations, made up of 560,238 first doses and 365,412 second doses
- Over the last week, around 2,300 first dose vaccines were given each day, while approximately 6,100 second doses were also given each day
- More than 770 people have, over the last four weeks, received their first vaccine dose from our mobile vaccination clinic
- The mobile clinic will soon begin its return leg and revisit previous locations to provide second doses
- Our floating vaccine clinic has been making its way across the region's canals this week, and we expect the delivery of second doses to our boater community to be completed before the bank holiday weekend
- Vaccine information specific to students has now been added to the CCG's website
- The large vaccination centres at Bath Racecourse and Salisbury City Hall are now able to provide patients with the Pfizer vaccine, as well as that which is produced by AstraZeneca
- However, patients travelling to either of the sites will not be able to choose the vaccine they are given

Vaccination progress to date

