

# COVID-19 vaccination programme update

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# COVID-19 vaccination progress



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The latest national vaccination data shows that we are making really good progress with second doses. The data published by NHS England and Improvement shows that up to Sunday, 16 May:

- **74% of adults in Norfolk and Waveney had received their first dose**, compared to 67% of adults in England. This puts us third out of the 42 health and care systems in England.
- **45% of adults in Norfolk and Waveney had also received their second dose**, compared to 38% of adults in England. This puts us fifth out of the 42 health and care systems.
- In the week to 16 May **22,804 first doses were given**
- In the week to 16 May **36,457 second doses were given.**
- A total of **1,007,691 doses of vaccine had been given locally** since the start of the vaccination programme.

# Groups we are vaccinating



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In line with the rest of the country, **we offered everyone in JCVI priority groups 1-9 the opportunity to have received their first dose of vaccine before 15 April 2021:**

Vaccine is now being given to:

- people aged 34 and over
- people who will turn 34 before 1 July 2021
- people at high risk from COVID-19 (clinically extremely vulnerable)
- people who live or work in care homes
- health and social care workers
- people with a condition that puts them at higher risk (clinically vulnerable)
- people with a learning disability
- people who are a main carer for someone at high risk from COVID-19

We will have offered a vaccine to all adults over the age of 16 by 31 July, subject to vaccine supply.

# Vaccine supply



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- **We gave 36,457 second doses in the week to 16 May.** We are continuing to provide second doses at pace.
- **Second dose supply remains unaffected** – enough doses will be delivered to ensure that everyone who is due to have their second dose will be invited forward and receive theirs within the 12-week timeframe.
- Vaccine supply is likely to continue to be lumpy, but the Government has reiterated that we expect to receive **enough vaccine to meet the national commitment to offer all adults the opportunity to have had their first dose by 31 July.**
- First doses continue to be given, in line with vaccine supply which is expected to increase again early June 2021.
- In the UK **30,537,954** people have had their first dose (54.6%) while **17,014,522** (30.4%) are fully vaccinated.

# Second doses: changes to JCVI guidance



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- In line with all areas across the country, we will be contacting some people (over 50 and Cohorts 1-9) directly to bring forward their appointment for the second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.
- This is so people at greater risk of getting seriously ill due to coronavirus can get maximum protection earlier.
- The standard window between first and second doses should be 12 weeks, but for people over the age of 50 and those in cohorts 1-9, this has been reduced to eight weeks. If individuals are already over the eight-week window since their first dose, they should not worry – they will be sent a text or contacted by an NHS organisation to change their appointment for an earlier date, shortly.
- If an appointment was originally booked via the national booking system, individuals should have received a text to bring their second dose vaccination forward. If they had their vaccine at a local GP surgery, GP led site, hospital hub or at a walk-in centre, they should wait to be contacted, people should not contact their GP practice.
- For everyone under the age of 50 and not part of cohorts 1-9, second dose appointments will take place on or around 12 weeks.

# Pharmacy vaccination sites



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- A number of community pharmacies are about to come on-stream, providing even more choice as to where people can book a COVID-19 vaccine.
- Hado pharmacy at Diss is about to go live following confirmation that the site can now receive a supply of vaccine.
- Other sites will go live imminently, subject to vaccine supply.
- Appointments at these sites will be bookable via the National Booking Service and will provide both first and second doses.

# An update on the vaccination bus...



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- The mobile vaccination bus continues to visit selected sites across Norfolk and Waveney.
- Currently, it is visiting food production sites including Pilgrim's Food Group in King's Lynn and Kerry Foods in Norwich, with almost **500 people** vaccinated.
- The vaccination bus is playing an important role in taking vaccinations to some of our most hard to reach, vulnerable groups of people, rather than waiting for these people to come to us.
- Future on-bus vaccinations will be offered to other groups who have issues with accessing mainstream health services.
- If you have any requests in your local communities as to where the bus should go, please do let us know.



# Vaccinating younger cohorts



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- Nationally, anecdotal feedback suggests that younger people feel more relaxed and questioning whether they should have a COVID-19 vaccine. Early indications show there is more hesitancy with younger age groups across Norfolk and Waveney, compared with earlier cohorts.
- Work is taking place to develop a local campaign, focussing on the effects and impact of Long COVID, encouraging younger people to take up the offer of vaccination when they are eligible. This will include developing the already successful joint campaign with Norfolk County Council and District Councils, 'I've had mine!'
- The time of all clinics is also constantly reviewed – more and more clinics are now taking place into the evening and at weekends to fit in with lifestyle habits of younger cohorts.
- We will rely less on traditional media channels with younger cohorts and venture into even more social media messages and channels, in line with how younger cohorts typically access information.

# Vaccinating pregnant women



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- Pregnant women are able to book via the national booking service and will be directed to vaccination centres offering Pfizer and Moderna in their local area, in line with JCVI Guidance.
- Pregnant women are advised to discuss the risks and benefits of vaccination with their clinician before having a vaccine.
- Women who are planning pregnancy, are in the immediate postpartum, or are breastfeeding can be vaccinated with any vaccine, depending on their age and clinical risk group.
- If they are under the age of 40, the preference is for Astra Zeneca or Moderna.



# Vaccination drop-in clinics



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- Drop-in vaccine clinics continue, where vaccine supply permits. The ease of not having to pre-book a vaccine appointment is working for many people, as well as the convenience of being able to ‘drop-in’ at a time to suit them.
- Last weekend, 834 people were vaccinated at the drop-in clinic held at the Market Gates Shopping Centre in Great Yarmouth. Of those 448 were walk ins, without an appointment.
- On Monday 17 May, an additional walk-in clinic took place at the Louise Hamilton Centre, Great Yarmouth and vaccinated 600 people. We have focussed on Great Yarmouth more recently to ensure that vaccine uptake levels up to other areas across Norfolk and Waveney.
- Drop-in clinics are for first doses only. They will continue to be a key part of our vaccination programme going forward.
- Drop-in clinics take place regularly, in line with vaccine supply. These extra clinics are added to the CGG website and social media channels; please share these when they are advertised.

# Key messages for local people and stakeholders



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Early signs continue to suggest the success of the vaccination programme is contributing to the welcome fall in people in hospital with coronavirus.

But it's still the case that NHS staff are having to pull out all the stops to deliver what it is the largest vaccination drive in our history. So we need the public to continue to play their part too:

- please don't contact the NHS to seek a vaccine, the NHS will contact you when it is the right time;
- when the NHS does contact you, please attend your booked appointments at exactly the time you're asked to;
- and whether you have had your vaccine or not, please continue to follow all the guidance in place to control the virus and save lives.
- Have your second vaccination to ensure longer lasting, maximum protection.
- Our vaccination teams continue to work as fast as they possibly can to administer the life-saving COVID-19 jabs and the most recent figures show that nearly a million doses have now been administered in Norfolk and Waveney, with 71% of adults aged over 16 having received their first dose.

# Key messages for local people and stakeholders



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- We continue to urge local people to be patient. If you cannot find an appointment at a vaccination site close to where you live, please keep checking back. New appointment slots at a variety of locations are released regularly. In the coming days and weeks we expect further options to become available including more pharmacy-led vaccination sites, mobile vaccination clinics and walk-through opportunities to help ensure high rates of uptake of vaccines, together with accessibility and equity of access for local people.
- Everyone who is eligible for a vaccine should take up the offer when they are offered it. Being vaccinated gives you the best protection from becoming seriously ill if you contract COVID-19. Second doses are equally important, so please don't delay when you're invited for an appointment – you need both doses for the highest levels of protection
- The virus has not gone away, so it's really important that everyone continues to support our key workers and the national effort by following the guidance in place to try to contain the virus and remembering hands, face, space at all times.

You can find out more information about the COVID-19 vaccination programme on the NHS Norfolk and Waveney CCG website, including some information in other languages and in Easy Read:

[www.norfolkandwaveneyccg.nhs.uk/covid-19-vaccination-programme](http://www.norfolkandwaveneyccg.nhs.uk/covid-19-vaccination-programme)