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Joined Up Care
Derbyshire

Stakeholder Bulletin

19 March 2021

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19): Derby and Derbyshire stakeholder bulletin #49



Dear partners

Wednesday 17 March marked 100 days since the COVID-19 vaccination programme began. The COVID-19 vaccination programme is the largest of its kind undertaken by the NHS and in recognition of this significant milestone, the NHS in Derbyshire released a [video](#) bringing together some of the highlights from the journey so far. Wednesday also saw people aged 50+ become eligible to book a COVID-19 vaccination. This priority group may receive a letter or SMS from the National Booking Service or from their GP practice.

Shortly before we reached the 100 day milestone, media coverage of a possible link between blood clots and the Oxford/AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine began to emerge, but I must stress that the [Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency \(MHRA\) remains clear that there is no evidence to support this and people should still go and get their COVID-19 vaccine when asked to do so](#). As I write this a [review](#) by the EU's medicines regulator has just concluded that the Oxford/AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine is "safe and effective", was "not associated" with a higher risk of blood clots and its benefits outweigh the risks.

Responding to shadow health secretary Jonathan Ashworth on Thursday, Health Secretary Matt Hancock said it is "absolutely clear" from the data so far that "vaccines are safe, and make people safer" than not getting vaccinated. The vaccination programme has had a profound positive impact on the rate of infection and as it says at the end of the 100 days video: "Every vaccination brings us closer to the life we knew

severe the pandemic.

The Health Secretary has also confirmed that there will be a 'significant reduction in weekly supply' of Covid vaccine from 29 March. The reduction has been attributed in part to a delay in a delivery from India. Despite this we have a good supply for the next fortnight and Matt Hancock has said that first jabs will still be given every week in April and those who are awaiting second doses will not see a delay because of any supply issues. It is hard to comprehend the complexity of the supply chain for the vaccine and for me this illustrates how fortunate we are to be at the stage we are at with the vaccination programme and the importance of not being complacent about its existence.

The vaccination programme is central to reducing the number of patients in our hospitals with COVID-19 and as numbers reduce our capacity to respond to patients with non-COVID issues increases. In issue 47 I spoke about the impact the pandemic has had on our ability to restore services and perform elective surgery - as it has for other NHS Trusts nationwide and healthcare systems in Europe. On Monday the NHS in Derbyshire [issued a more detailed statement](#) which explains our current position and the reasons for this as well as how we have responded to date and our plans for future recovery. I hope you find the update informative.

With best wishes and please do stay safe.

Chris

Chris Clayton
Accountable Officer & Chief Executive
NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG

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Items included in this update

- National update
- Update for Derby and Derbyshire
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National updates

[EU agency says AstraZeneca vaccine is 'safe and effective'](#)

A review by the European Union's medicines regulator has concluded the Oxford-AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine is "safe and effective".

See also:

[MHRA response to the precautionary suspensions of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca](#)
[What is the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine?](#)
[Is Europe's AstraZeneca jab decision-making flawed?](#)

[No vaccine appointments will be cancelled – Hancock](#)

Matt Hancock has said that first jabs will still be given every week in April and those who are awaiting second doses will not see a delay because of any supply issues.

See also:

[Matt Hancock praises 'fantastic' Covid vaccine programme](#)
[NHS warns of 'significant reduction' in vaccines](#)
[India shortfall a factor in UK's supply delay](#)

[The inside story of the government's battle against the virus](#)

An in-depth piece written by the BBC's Political Editor, Laura Kuenssberg

['The Gospel Truth?' Covid-19 vaccines and the danger of religious misinformation](#)

As coronavirus vaccines slowly roll out across the world, leaders are working hard to build confidence in them.

['My dad became my best friend'](#)

Before March 2020, Shireen says she didn't "really care" about her dad as they'd grown apart. Shireen shares her story to encourage others to reconnect with their families.

[I've had my coronavirus jab – what now?](#)

[Tamil](#), [Punjabi](#), [Urdu](#), [Sylheti](#), [Gujarati](#)

Follow the links in the 'related' section for lots more videos in South Asian languages.

Explainers in South Asian languages



Statistics

UK Summary | Data from <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk>

The [national release of vaccination statistics by the NHS on Thursday](#), indicates that Derbyshire continues to vaccinate people at a good pace.

Update for Derby and Derbyshire

Current situation

The downward trend in COVID-19 infections that we have reported in recent weeks continues. However, last week we saw 34 people die of COVID and that's why it is important to remember that this is still a very serious disease. Preventing the spread of infection remains our utmost priority. We continue to be mindful of the factors such as the reopening of schools that could lead to increases in COVID-19 activity.

COVID-19 vaccination programme

100 days

Wednesday marked 100 days since the COVID-19 vaccination programme began and in recognition of this significant milestone, the NHS in Derbyshire released a [video](#) bringing together some of the highlights from the journey so far.

There was a lot of interest from the media in reaching this milestone with both BBC East Midlands Today and ITV Central visiting Babington Hospital in Belper to talk with patients and Dr Paddy Kinsella about the programme.

BBC East Midlands today also interviewed Dr Drew Smith, the clinical lead for the Local Vaccination Service site at Derby Arena. Dr Smith was also interviewed on BBC Radio Derby, [talking about the 100 day milestone](#) and even [answering listeners' questions about the vaccines being used](#).

William Jones, the Chief Operating Officer of Derbyshire Community Healthcare Services NHS Foundation Trust, was also [interviewed by Radio Derby morning host Andy Twigge](#).

Current progress

There is currently a good supply of the vaccine. Derbyshire is on track to achieve its target to have offered a first dose of the vaccine to all eligible people by mid-June and will shortly reach 500,000 vaccinations given.

The Derby Arena Vaccination Centre has seen record numbers in recent days and we are making good progress with delivering second doses and vaccinating the 55-60 priority group. Since Wednesday people aged 50+ became eligible to book a COVID-19 vaccination. It's important to remember that people in this priority group may receive a letter [or SMS](#) from the National Booking Service or from their GP practice.

GP colleagues at our Local Vaccination Service sites continue to focus on people in priority group 6 - adults aged 16 to 65 years in an at-risk group - and we are receiving positive feedback on the engagement work we have been doing with seldom heard groups.

Oxford/AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine

We saw evidence in the early part of this week that media coverage of a possible link between blood clots and the Oxford/AstraZeneca COVID-19 had created some hesitancy among the public with increased levels of patients not attending booked appointments, and media questions about the issue.

Following the [Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency \(MHRA\) statement](#) underlining that there was no evidence to support this and recommendation that people should still go and get their COVID-19 vaccine when asked to do so, [Dr Susie Bayley](#) appeared on BBC Radio Derby and Greatest Hits North East Derbyshire to provide reassurance to patients, saying she recommended that her own family and patients use the vaccine. She herself received the vaccine as part of clinical trials.

At the time of writing, a [review](#) by the European Union's medicines regulator has just concluded that the Oxford/AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine is "safe and effective". Unofficial and anecdotal evidence now suggests that attendance levels across Derby and Derbyshire are back to their normal levels.

Other useful links

[Click here to access our video and leaflet to help patients understand what to expect when they go for their COVID-19 vaccination.](#)

Tackling misinformation surrounding the COVID-19 vaccine

See the Government's [SHARE checklist](#) and this [5-minute game](#) that helps protect against COVID-19 misinformation.

Vaccination statistics

Vaccination statistics are published every Thursday and are available [here](#).

Vaccination FAQs and the latest information on the community vaccination programme

Vaccination 'frequently asked questions' and the latest information on the community vaccination programme in Derby and Derbyshire is available [here](#).

Health services

Easy ways to order repeat prescriptions

[Find out](#) about all the ways you can order your repeat prescriptions.

Urgent Treatment Centres

There are five [Urgent Treatment Centres](#) across Derby and Derbyshire. Urgent Treatment Centres (UTCs) are GP-led, open at least 12 hours a day, every day, offer appointments that can be booked through [111](#) or through a GP referral, and are equipped to diagnose and deal with many of the most common ailments people attend A&E for.

Your GP practice continues to be open for all health matters

[This animation](#) explains how people can access their GP practice, including how to get in contact, the different ways care may be delivered, and how face-to-face appointments have changed.

Access to primary care services (GP, Pharmacy, Dentist and Opticians)

[This document](#), produced by NHS England and NHS Improvement, provides helpful information about how primary care services are currently operating.

Help us help you

For more information about the work the NHS in Derbyshire has done to ensure that essential services are safe and available to you when you need them please [click here](#).

Services

Joined Up Care Derbyshire has an area of their [website](#) dedicated to bringing you all the latest health service information. For residents without internet access a phone service is available via Healthwatch Derbyshire. Call 01773 880 786, - Mon to Fri, 10am-3.30pm.

If you would like to access the individual websites of our hospital and community NHS partners, these are listed below:

[University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Derbyshire Community Health Services NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust](#)

[DHU Health Care](#) (provider of the NHS 111 telephone helpline for the East Midlands as well as the out of hours GP services in Derbyshire and Leicestershire)

Partner news

Developing Aspirant BAME Nursing and Midwifery Leaders' Programme

[Click here](#) for more information on this new initiative to support aspiring nursing and midwifery leaders from a BAME background.

Ramadan Safety Guidance

Click [here](#) to download Ramadan safety guidance endorsed by the Muslim Council of Britain.

Down Syndrome Day 21 March

World Down Syndrome Day is marked each year on March 21, beginning in 2006. The 21st day of March was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication of the 21st chromosome which causes Down syndrome. This year, the global theme is "[We Decide](#)"

Act FAST

The [Act FAST campaign](#), supported by the Stroke Association, has relaunched to alert people to the immediate need to ring 999 if they have symptoms of stroke. It follows data suggesting some people put off seeking help during the first months of the pandemic.

Convalescent blood plasma donation

NHS Blood and Transplant still needs people who have had COVID-19 to come forward as [potential donors of convalescent blood plasma](#) to support future trials and treatment.

Support, guidance, advice and wellbeing

[Access coronavirus business innovation support package](#)

[Easy read guide to personal health budgets](#)

Mental health

[Find a local NHS urgent mental health helpline](#)

[NHS talking therapies can help you if you're struggling to cope with feelings of anxiety or depression](#)

Patient-friendly information on coronavirus

Accessible, high-quality information on COVID-19 is available at library.nhs.uk/coronavirus-resources.

Advice on healthcare for refugees and migrants

Public Health England has [published advice](#) on healthcare for refugees and migrants.

Support for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities

Friends, Families and Travellers has a [service directory](#) on its website, and relevant information on [COVID-19](#).

COVID-19 vaccination: British Sign Language resources

British Sign Language (BSL) [videos](#) on COVID-19 vaccination.

Coronavirus (COVID-19): providing unpaid care

[Information](#) for people who are caring, unpaid, for friends or family during the coronavirus outbreak.

Enabling safe and effective volunteering during coronavirus (COVID-19)

[This guidance](#) aims to help organisations and groups understand how to safely and effectively involve volunteers during the pandemic.

Other useful links

[Bereavement support](#)

[Updated self-care guidance this winter and during the pandemic](#)

[Over 50s alcohol helpline](#)

[Feeding Derbyshire](#)

[The Bee Tree Community – ending social isolation](#)

[Derbyshire Community Response Unit](#)

[Derbyshire Voluntary Action](#)

[Derby Community Hub](#)

[Community Action Derby](#)

[Community Directory Derbyshire](#)

[COVID-19 Survivors Group UK](#)

Wellbeing, health advice and support for health, social care and community staff

Support in relation to the COVID-19 virus is available on the Joined Up Care Derbyshire website [here](#).

Protect the capacity of our health and care services

- Follow the [national guidance](#) on restrictions
- [Download](#) the NHS COVID-19 app
- Isolate if ill
- Wash hands regularly
- Wear a face covering when required
- Maintain a safe social distance as appropriate

What you can do to help

Help us to save lives by reinforcing key messages in this bulletin with your key contacts. This should include the updated Government message to stay alert to stay safe. Please use your social media accounts to share only official messages from Government and NHS websites and accounts as there is a lot of misinformation about coronavirus being shared online.

Download previous editions of this bulletin

You can download previous editions of this bulletin [here](#).

Contact

If you have any feedback, or questions, please email us at: ddccg.enquiries@nhs.net.

Disclaimer:

While every effort has been made to ensure the contents of this bulletin are accurate and up-to-date you will appreciate that the situation relating to the coronavirus pandemic can change rapidly and so NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG do not accept any responsibility of any omission as it is not deliberate. Nevertheless, we will appreciate provision of accurate information to improve our work. Where links are provided to external content, NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG holds no responsibility for such content or accuracy.