

COVID-19 Response Stakeholder briefing

19 January 2021

Response to COVID-19 – Brighton and Hove

This briefing aims to update you on the response across our local NHS system in Brighton and Hove to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, in particular the vaccination programme.

Latest position in Brighton and Hove

The number of confirmed cases of Covid-19 in Brighton & Hove has more than doubled since the current national lockdown started on 26 December.

In the seven days up to 8 January (based on data published on 13 January) we had 2244 confirmed new Covid-19 cases in Brighton & Hove. This is:

- a 18% increase per 100,000 residents from the previous week
- equivalent to a weekly rate of new cases of 771 per 100,000 residents
- higher than the rate for England, which was 655 per 100,000 and the South East which was 699 per 100,000

COVID-19 Vaccination programme

**When
will I get
my jab** ?

Vaccines are being rolled out in
GP-led vaccination services,
hospital hubs and care homes.

Visit our website for the full list.

NHS

CORONAVIRUS
**KEEP
SUSSEX
SAFE**

The Sussex vaccination programme has launched a new campaign to provide clear public information to members of the public, patients and our partners. We recognise the high interest from across our communities in the vaccination programme and we hope that this campaign can help to support our communities as we continue the roll out of this vital protection. The campaign will include promotion on social media, newspapers, community groups, and with partners.

Update on the vaccination programme in Brighton and Hove

There are a number of ways in which the vaccination is being rolled out to our communities:

- **A GP-led vaccination service** is where those who are in the first priority groups living in our local community will initially receive their vaccination. This involves groups of local GP practices working together to provide the vaccination to their collective patients at one location. This means that you may not receive the vaccination at your local GP; you may be required to travel to a different location nearby.
- **Hospital hubs** – local hospitals across the country have begun giving the vaccine to people over 80 who are attending for a planned appointment and frontline health and care staff. You will only receive your vaccination in this way if you have an appointment at your hospital.
- **Roving service** – the vaccine will be taken into care homes and into people's own homes if they cannot attend a vaccination site. This is being stepped up over the coming weeks as more supplies of the vaccines become available.
- **Large vaccination centres** – each county will have one large vaccination centre which will be able to give the vaccine to large numbers of people. The large vaccination centres that will service your area will be at the Brighton Centre and this is likely to be up and running at the end of the month.

Over 70s to begin receiving vaccination invitations

This week the government has announced that once vaccination services have vaccinated the majority of people in the first two priority cohorts recommended by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) - residents and staff in care homes for older people, those aged 80 and over and frontline health and care staff, they now have the flexibility to offer vaccinations to the next two cohorts – those aged 70 and over and clinically extremely vulnerable people.

This will keep up the pace of the vaccine roll-out, ensure that no vaccination appointments are unused and prevent wastage.

In Sussex, people aged over 80, care home residents and staff, and health and care workers remain the priority and good progress continues to be made.

Some people have begun receiving a letter from the national booking service inviting them to book appointments at the large-scale vaccination centres. The large-scale vaccination centre for Sussex is readying to open next week, pending delivery of supplies. The over 70s and clinically vulnerable people will be invited to book appointments through the national booking service.

Letters are being sent to people who live within 60 miles of a centre, so some residents in the north of Sussex will have received invitations based on their proximity to the Epsom Racecourse vaccination centre that went live last week. As more large-scale centres and pharmacy-led vaccination services come on-line these will be made available through the national booking service.

Anyone who receives an invitation from the national booking service has the choice of booking an appointment at one of the larger centres or community pharmacy-led sites offered or, if more convenient, waiting to be called by their GP.

Latest position on GP led vaccination services for Brighton and Hove residents

Every GP practice in Brighton and Hove is now covered by one of the three active GP led vaccination services for the city. This means that all registered patients will be able to access the vaccine at their allocated service as appointments are made available.

The GP led vaccination services for Brighton and Hove are currently:

Brighton Racecourse, for patients at:

- Albion Street Surgery
- Allied Medical Practice – School House Surgery and Church Surgery
- Arch healthcare
- Ardingly Court Surgery
- Beaconsfield Medical Practice
- Broadway Surgery
- Park Crescent Health Centre
- Pavilion Surgery
- Preston Park Surgery
- Regency Surgery
- Saltdean and Rottingdean Medical Practice
- Ship Street Surgery
- Stanford Medical Centre
- St Luke's Surgery
- St Peter's Medical Centre
- The Avenue Surgery
- The Haven Practice
- Warmdene SurgeryWellsbourne Healthcare CIC
- Woodingdean Medical Centre

County Oak Medical Centre, for patients at:

- Brighton Station Health Centre
- Carden Surgery
- Montpelier Surgery
- Seven Dials Medical Centre
- University of Sussex Health Centre

Portslade Health Centre, for patients at:

- Brighton Health and Wellbeing Centre
- Benfield Valley Healthcare Hub
- Charter Medical Group
- Hove Medical Centre
- Links Road Surgery
- Mile Oak Medical Centre
- Portslade Health Centre
- Trinity Medical Centre
- Wish Park Surgery

We understand that there have been some enquiries about the location of the race course and we recognise that some people will have to travel further than others to get their vaccination depending on where they live in the city. If anyone is concerned about how they will travel to get a vaccine during lockdown, it should be noted that, under the national guidance, it is permissible to receive a lift from someone or there are community transport providers offering this support in terms of transport for medical appointments. You can find

information about community and non-emergency transport on the Brighton and Hove City Council website, or call the community hub on 01273 293 117.

How the GP led vaccination services are working

Each GP led vaccination service is receiving deliveries of vaccine from the national supply to provide the first vaccination to their patients.

Appointments are being offered to patients as soon as vaccine deliveries are confirmed.

The Government guidance on the timing of the second dose has been updated and is now over a 12 week period. All of our vaccination services are following this guidance and inviting their patients back for their second dose in the 12 week period.

We are working to vaccinate as many people as possible as quickly as possible, but deploying a vaccine at this scale is unprecedented. Timing will be dependent to a large extent on manufacturing timescales and supply.

We would please ask all partners to encourage the public not to call their GP practice to find out more about the vaccination programme and to make an appointment. GP practices are incredibly busy at the moment providing their day to day care for patients and they have seen an increase in calls to their teams to ask about the vaccination programme and when it will be available.

We are working with all GP practices to have clear information on their websites and working with community partners to ensure we can share the latest updates in our communities.

Hospital hubs

Hospital hub vaccination services in Sussex were launched at the Royal Sussex County Hospital in Brighton on 08 December 2020. There are now eight hospital hub vaccination services across Sussex, focused on the vaccination of health and care staff, including care home staff:

- Conquest Hospital, Hastings
- Eastbourne District General Hospital
- Mill View Hospital, Hove
- Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath
- Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead
- Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton
- St Richards Hospital, Chichester
- Worthing Hospital

Vaccinations in care homes

Older people in care homes have been identified as the top priority group for the vaccine by the Joint Committee on Vaccinations and Immunisations due to their high risk from COVID-19. Care staff are also in the top priority.

More than 240 care settings in Sussex have now been vaccinated (as of 18 January 2021). Many more homes across our patch will be vaccinated this week, and we will update you on numbers again in the next briefing.

Subject to vaccine supply, we intend to vaccinate all care homes with residents over the age of 65 years old, by the 25 January, and all care homes in Sussex by mid-February 2021. We will confirm details to each home individually. This will include the appropriate information sharing and consent forms required, including any additional considerations such as mental capacity and safeguarding.

Vaccines are being delivered through the Sussex GP-led vaccination service, managed by the local Primary Care Networks (PCN). We expect this to cover the majority of the care homes in Sussex, with the remainder being served by Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust (SCFT) vaccination teams.

Healthwatch webinar

Our three Healthwatch organisations in Sussex are working together with Sussex CCGs to support families of residents in care settings during this time.

Sussex Healthwatch is hosting a COVID-19 vaccination roll-out in care homes online webinar for Brighton and Hove and East Sussex on Monday 25 January from 3 – 4 pm.

These events are the first in a series which come as one of the recommendations from a report published last month.

More information

We continue to publish all of the latest information on the vaccine of the [Sussex Health and Care Partnership website](#) including a public FAQ, which you may find useful.

We are responding to an unprecedented number of enquiries regarding the roll out of the COVID-19 vaccine across Sussex. We will respond to everyone, but if you need more information, please do have a look at our frequently asked questions documents in the first instance, which may cover the queries you have.

These may also help you to manage and support queries from families, and proactively talk to them about the vaccine.

- [General vaccine FAQs](#)
- [Care homes FAQs](#)

If you have a question about the Sussex COVID-19 vaccination programme, which is not answered in our FAQ document, please do let us know using the dedicated mailbox Sxccg.vaccineenquiries@nhs.net