

Sussex Covid-19 and Influenza Vaccination Programme

Stakeholder update

13 December 2021

This briefing aims to provide an update on the COVID-19 vaccination programme in Sussex and the next steps to accelerate booster vaccinations for our population.

1. Overview

- Across Sussex 3,302,762 vaccinations (first dose - 1,362,689, second dose - 1,267,717 and 672,356 booster dose).
- 83.6% of the eligible population in Sussex have had their first dose, 77.4% have had their second dose and 67.4% of the eligible population in cohorts 1-10 have had their booster (based on registered GP population and uptake at 9th December);
- All care homes have now received a visit for their booster vaccination;
- Housebound visits are underway and the current trajectory shows that booster vaccination for their housebound residents will be complete by 22nd December 2021.
- The key figures for each area are:

	First dose	Second dose	Booster dose (Cohort 1-10)	Booster dose (Cohort 1-12)
Brighton and Hove	75.3%	69.0%	59.0%	44.3%
East Sussex	84.8%	78.6%	67.3%	57.5%
West Sussex	85.9%	79.8%	69.9%	58.2%
Sussex	83.6%	77.4%	67.4%	55.7%

2. Key programme updates:

- From today, Monday 13 December, all those aged 30 and over are now able to book and receive their booster;
- From Wednesday 15 December, all those aged 18 and over will be able to book and receive their booster;
- People must be 3 months from the date of their second vaccination to receive a booster, but they can book it from 2 months after the date of their second vaccine when they are able to use the National Booking System;
- The national target is now to have offered a booster to all adults (everyone aged 18 and over) by the end of December 2021.

3. Current services and capacity

- Across Sussex, vaccinations are taking place in vaccination centres, local vaccination services, pharmacy led vaccination services and mobile vaccination services;
- There are currently more than 40 sites offering COVID-19 vaccinations across our communities;
- A full list of the sites is available on the Sussex Health and Care Partnership website: [Where can I get my Covid-19 vaccination? - Sussex Health & Care Partnership \(sussexhealthandcare.uk\)](https://www.sussexhealthandcare.uk)
- In terms of capacity for the services:
 - Last week 88,000 vaccinations were completed, including 18,000 on Saturday and 12,000 on Sunday;
 - 93,000 vaccinations are expected to take place this week, with 61,500 vaccinations currently booked for this week on the National Booking System.
- All services had been working to increase capacity and in the last two weeks, more than 10,000 additional appointments were added per week across all sites to the National Booking System.

4. Increasing capacity further

Following the Government's announcement yesterday of the acceleration of the booster programme, our teams are working at pace to maximise the number of appointments that can be made available.

New appointments are added to the National Booking System daily by sites, and we expect a significant increase from Wednesday 15 December when all adults become eligible to book their appointment.

In terms of the scale, 642,000 vaccinations will need to be completed by the end of December to have vaccinated 100% of the adult population in Sussex. This equates to 214,000 vaccinations a week or 35,000 a day.

To reach 80% of the population we would need to do approximately 171,000 a week or 24,500 a day.

This is challenging but we are working with all vaccination teams and our health and care partners to understand how we can rise to this challenge and provide the increases in capacity.

Some of the measures we will be taking include:

- Opening current vaccination services for longer into the evening, or for additional days;
- Bringing in additional workforce as part of the national offer to help support our vaccination services to extend their opening;
- Provide a roving team from CCG staff to help to support housebound vaccination visits and other areas of delivery;
- Moving more local vaccination services onto the National Booking System so their appointments are visible on the website and via 119, compared to a local booking system.

We will be able to share the agreed actions as soon as possible with you, especially where capacity is being increased and the measures (such as extending opening times) being taken to achieve this.

5. Communications and enquiries

We are working over the coming days to ensure that there is clear messaging to patients, the public and our communities about the vaccination programme and what they need to do to book or receive their vaccine.

From today, we are working with the media, have information across our social media channels (both organic and paid for promotion), have shared updates with all GP practices so that they can use on their channels, and are working with our community and voluntary partners to share and cascade.

If you are able to share the latest messaging about the programme as well, it would be hugely appreciated – either to re-share from the Sussex Health and Care Partnership accounts or to post directly. If you need any materials, please find our latest toolkits here: [Sussex ICS Campaign Resource Centre - Sussex Health & Care Partnership \(sussexhealthandcare.uk\)](https://sussexhealthandcare.uk)

We recognise that the latest updates to the programme have led to an increase in the number of enquiries from patients and the public. We are experiencing high levels of enquiries but we will work to respond to you and your teams as quickly as possible.

If you can keep sharing the enquiries with the appropriate email it will help us to manage them effectively:

- sxccg.mpvaccineenquiries@nhs.net for all vaccination enquiries
- sxccg.mpenquiries@nhs.net for all other enquiries