



Information

for adult social care providers

CORONAVIRUS
**PROTECT
YOURSELF
& OTHERS**



Bulletin 69 – 15 January 2021

Dear colleague

This bulletin focusses solely on the vaccination programme, which will greatly contribute towards people in Leicestershire being protected from COVID-19.

Please consider the content of this bulletin carefully and how you and your organisation can support the vaccination roll-out – every injection carried out helps to keep vulnerable people in Leicestershire safe.

Priority groups for vaccination

The LLR COVID-19 vaccination programme is following the nationally-set Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) priority order, which has been developed by experts based on evidence to prevent deaths and to maintain health and social care systems. Please see

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/priority-groups-for-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-advice-from-the-jcvi-30-december-2020/joint-committee-on-vaccination-and-immunisation-advice-on-priority-groups-for-covid-19-vaccination-30-december-2020>

We understand that you are keen to get your staff vaccinated as soon as possible, and you may have heard that vaccinations are being rolled out differently in other parts of England. We can assure you that we are working to get priority groups vaccinated as quickly as possible. ***You do not need to register in any way for your workers and people who use your services to be allocated with vaccination appointments.***

In line with the first national priority (known as ‘cohort 1’), care home residents and staff are continuing to be offered vaccinations. In parallel we are making plans for the next and much larger priority group (known as ‘cohort 2’) which includes frontline health and social care workers. Yesterday a national ‘Standard Operating Procedure’ (SOP) was published which sets out how the vaccination of the wider social care workforce should proceed. You do not need to read the detailed guidance at this stage but it is attached here for your information:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/publication/vaccinating-frontline-social-care-workers/>

All care providers: preparing your staff for vaccination

We know that you will want to show leadership with your workers now, to prepare them to accept their vaccination appointments when they are offered. Please consider the following ideas:

- Speak positively about the benefits of vaccination
- Promote publicity materials
- Answer your colleagues' questions and address their concerns; if you don't know, please contact enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk and we will do our best to collate and respond to queries
- Release staff to have their vaccination during work time, where practical
- Enable them to attend worker question and answer sessions to be set up by Leicestershire County Council
- Where some of your workers have already accessed the vaccine, and others remain unsure, encourage them to talk to their peers
- Where offered, have your own vaccination and demonstrate this to your staff

All care providers: information and publicity materials

More information about the vaccine, including its safety and effectiveness and how it provides the best available protection from COVID-19 is on the NHS website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/coronavirus-vaccine/> and
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/why-vaccination-is-safe-and-important>

You may also find this short video useful, which includes David Pearson, Dr Nikita Kanani and Professor Jonathan Van Tam answering questions about the vaccine for the care sector: <https://youtu.be/e6UHLCmC1vo>

Further materials including the experiences of workers in Leicestershire are being developed and will be available soon.

Care home, home care, supported living and community life choices: manager dial-in sessions including vaccination Q&A

We hold fortnightly calls on a range of topics, which from late December have included an item and opportunity for managers to ask questions about the vaccination programme. Details until late March can be found at <https://resources.leicestershire.gov.uk/adult-social-care-and-health/working-with-you-during-coronavirus/provider-teleconferences>

Care homes: preparing for on-site vaccinations

Primary Care Networks (PCNs, i.e. groupings of GPs) are now contacting care homes within their part of the county to arrange vaccinations on-site for residents and remaining workers.

You will be contacted directly by your PCN; to enable on-site vaccination for staff within the care home at the time of the vaccination visit:

- The care home manager must establish which staff consent to receiving the vaccine and share this information with the GP practice ahead of the scheduled visit
- Care home staff may need to attend when they are not on duty if they wish to receive the vaccine at work
- The PCN will contact the care home manager so they know how many doses to arrange
- Where possible, the PCN will contact the care home manager the day(s) before vaccination to confirm their attendance, the number of residents who are consented and ready for the vaccine, and the number of consenting staff who will be on site

You will be provided with:

- A care home vaccination mobilisation support pack and checklist which also includes information on consent
- An IPC questionnaire to complete

Care homes: vaccination locations for workers

All Leicestershire care home workers have now been offered vaccinations through a hospital hub site.

The following approach to vaccinating remaining care workers by PCNs in care homes has been agreed:

1. The preferred location will be within their care home, during the session to vaccinate residents
2. If this is not possible, the individual worker arranges a vaccination with their local GP practice / PCN
3. If that is not possible, the individual worker will arrange an appointment at a hospital hub. Several hospital hub sites are now available, with more opening across the county until the end of January.

Care homes: open dial-in vaccination Q&A sessions for workers

We recognise that it is often best to address people's queries directly with them, and with this in mind we are beginning a series of worker question and answer sessions. The first will be for Leicestershire care home workers only. Details of further calls for other service types will be released next week.

The panel will include Public Health, a GP, commissioning, and communications staff.

Where care home staff have questions, please encourage them to ring in using the following details. They do not need to register, but they can submit their questions in advance by emailing them to enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk. If they are

ringing in from a phone (including a mobile phone) they simply need to ring the number in italics below and quote the 'Phone Conference ID' when prompted.

Date: Wednesday 20 January 2021

Time: 10.00-10.45

Dial in details:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+44 20 3443 9666,,435885620#](#) *United Kingdom, London*

Phone Conference ID: 435 885 620#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

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We look forward to speaking to them.

Yours sincerely

Jon Wilson
Director of Adults and Communities

Mike Sandys
Director of Public Health

The archive of all previous COVID-19 provider bulletins released since March 2020 can be found at <https://resources.leicestershire.gov.uk/adult-social-care-and-health/working-with-you-during-coronavirus>