

COVID community update – 13 December 2021

Dear volunteer coordinators and parish councillors,

By now I am sure that you will have heard the latest news regarding the acceleration of the roll-out of COVID-19 booster jabs. This follows the Prime Minister's address to the nation last night. A new target has been set to offer boosters to all adults who want one by the end of this month.

As part of the plan, thousands more volunteer vaccinators will be needed, for which full training will be given. Many more volunteers in support / administration roles will also be required. Clearly this will require many people to come forward and help and we are now in discussions with our health partners to establish how we may be able to assist. That is the primary reason for me writing to you today.

Can you help?

Please start thinking about whether you may be able to help with the accelerated booster jab roll-out by volunteering to help between now and the end of the year. There are likely to be paid roles in vaccinations (training will be provided) along with voluntary roles such as in marshalling and administration. Might you be able to offer your support, for a significant period of time, to this important effort? Previous experience will not be necessary for all roles.

Please don't reply to offer your services now. We will be in touch once again when we have been provided with further information from our health partners and this will include instructions as to how you can volunteer. I just wanted to write now to encourage you to begin thinking about whether this is something that you can help with.

Additionally, following the Prime Minister's announcement yesterday evening, the NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (which is responsible for the vaccination programme locally) shared a short summary about how people can access primary and booster vaccinations locally. We feel this is helpful, so wanted to share the situation with you as it currently stands:

- Those aged 30+ or those who are clinically vulnerable who had their second vaccination at least three months ago can now book via the [National Booking System](#) or by calling 119 (you can book from two months, or 61 days, with appointments offered from three months onwards)
- Those aged 18+ who had their second vaccination at least three months ago will be able to book via the [National Booking System](#) or by calling 119 **from Wednesday (15 December)**
- They are currently not offering walk-ins for boosters across our area, but the ‘evergreen’ offers for people to walk-in for their first or second jab or their third primary dose (with a letter from their GP) is still live at Queensgate, Grafton, Oak Tree, Horsefair and The Eatons (not Chesterton Bowls Club due to limited parking availability)
- They are working hard to open up new appointments across our area, and only sites with current availability will show on the [National Booking Service](#)
- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) will continue to update both www.thevaccinators.co.uk and the CCG’s social media accounts with the latest options.
- Unfortunately, NHS staff are facing an increasing volume of abuse from members of the public at vaccination clinics and at GP surgeries. The NHS operates a zero-tolerance policy towards abuse and you can help protect our valued NHS staff by sharing the [CCG’s messages](#) to #BeKind and have respect for their teams. Thank you.

As always, we will be in touch when we have more information to share. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Best wishes,

Bill

Bill Handley

Lead Cabinet Member for Community Resilience, Health and Wellbeing
South Cambridgeshire District Council