

South Lincolnshire COVID-19 Vaccination programme – Press Release 3 – 12th February 2021

Over the last couple of weeks we have continued to work hard focusing on reaching as many people as possible, and we are proud of the efforts of our practice teams and volunteers across South Lincolnshire.

We have now offered vaccines to well in excess of 20,000 people in less than a month.

We have done all we could to ensure that everyone in cohorts 1 – 4 has been offered a vaccination by 15th February in line with Governments target, and we are proud to be ahead of schedule thanks to the dedication of our teams.

This means that everyone over 70 should now have been offered the opportunity to have vaccine, and we'd urge anyone who hasn't to reach out to your practice as soon as possible to ensure nobody is missed.

Having made such fantastic progress we are delighted that we are now moving on to cohorts 5 & 6.

To ensure as many people receive the vaccination as possible we are working closely with our colleagues across the NHS, and as such if you are in cohort 5 (all those aged 65 - 70), you may receive a letter from the national booking service (NBS) next week inviting you to attend one of the large vaccination sites in the region.

You can choose to take this option, however we are also working hard to directly offer you appointments locally at our Springfields site and where possible at your local practice as well.

In addition during the next couple of weeks, we have been asked to focus our efforts on inviting cohort 6 for a vaccine. This cohort includes those aged 16 - 64 with underlying health conditions which puts people at higher risk, as well as carers and young adults in residential settings.

Every week, we have been able to improve and learn, offering more and more vaccines. Our teams have been amazing, and we will continue to do all we can to reach as many people as possible as quickly as possible.

That said our teams are tired, working long hours both in practice and at Springfields and whilst this has been a huge privilege to support our communities, we'd ask for your patience, understanding and kindness as we work as quickly as we can.

We'll continue to keep you updated as we move forward, and hope to provide further updates specifically with regard to your second dose shortly.

Thank you,

Kieran Harris

On behalf of the South Lincolnshire Rural, Market Deeping & Spalding Primary Care Networks.