

COVID-19 VACCINATION

Healthwatch website

We have created a dedicated webpage on the [Healthwatch Brighton and Hove website](#). Information is being released all the time and we are regularly updating this dedicated page as more information about the roll-out of vaccines is released. The website explains how the vaccines are currently being rolled-out and includes news and updates. In this bulletin we have included some of the most significant changes announced over the last week below.

Please visit the Healthwatch website [here](#) for more information.

Contact us

Healthwatch is working with local NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups to ensure you get the information you need. If you have a specific question, please do get in touch at office@healthwatchbrightonandhove.co.uk

Information to help you understand the vaccination roll out

You can access some answers to Frequently Asked Questions about the vaccine by clicking [here](#).

To help you understand more about the vaccination roll out and what to expect, a series of videos have been produced which are available below:

How will I get my jab? (animation) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bh4DLdKD6uw>

I have received a letter, what do I do? (animation)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ame-eJ4RUSU>

How will I be invited? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wtDEiOK46GM>

What is a vaccination centre? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=izprZWWYe9w>

In addition:

[Click here](#) to access an Easyread guide to being vaccinated

[Click here](#) and [here](#) to access translated materials about the vaccine

[Click here](#) for British Sign Language resources

Have you had the COVID vaccine? We would like to hear from you about your experience. Please email office@healthwatchbrightonandhove.co.uk

Or contact the team leading the roll out sxccg.commsresponseteam@nhs.net

In this bulletin:

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A. Share 'Your Vaccination Story' and feedback your thoughts



Real stories can encapsulate the good work that is taking place and to tell the human side of a story. Your feedback can also help to further improve the roll out programme

Hearing from local people about the questions you have, how we are sharing information, and your experience of having the vaccination will help to shape our communications and the way

people are receiving their vaccination across our services. Our surveys will help us shape the roll out of the vaccination programme over the coming weeks and months

Please do share this link onwards through your groups and networks

You can provide your story and comments by either

1. Contacting the team running the programme by using this link and clicking on '[stories](#)', or
2. Contacting Healthwatch, your local independent patient watchdog, by emailing us office@healthwatchbrightonandhove.co.uk

Available surveys

The team running the roll out have developed a very short survey which you can access here https://yoursaysussexhealthandcare.uk.engagementhq.com/when-will-i-get-my-jab?tool=survey_tool#tool_tab It is open until Friday 27th February.

Healthwatch has also developed a survey which asks for your thoughts on different aspects of the vaccine programme

- Are you happy to receive a vaccination?
- Do you have any concerns?

- Would you like to know more?
- How was it for you?
- How it could it be improved for others?
- Do you feel safer?
- Will this influence how you behave?

Please take 10-15 minutes to tell us via the questions below, or you can take the survey by accessing this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BtnandHoveVaccine> There is a chance to win one of five £20 vouchers for taking part.

(B) Book your jab - priority groups 5 and 6



People age 65 and over and those who are clinically vulnerable are now eligible to receive their vaccination.

The NHS will let you know when it's your turn to have the vaccination. The team leading the roll out are working hard get the vaccine to eligible people as quickly as supplies allow. They have made good progress and the target to offer the vaccination to everyone in the [first four priority groups](#) has been met.

Those in priority groups 5 and 6 can now receive the vaccine. These are:

Priority group 5: If you are aged 65 or over you are now eligible to book your vaccine. People in this group are starting to receive letters from the national vaccination booking system inviting you to book your vaccination appointment. You can do this online by visiting www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination or calling 119 free of charge.

Through the national system you can arrange your appointment at one of the larger vaccination centres including Brighton.

You also have the choice to ignore the letter and you will be contacted by your local GP led vaccination service when an appointment is available for you.

Priority group 6 - 'at risk': People aged 16 or over who are classed as 'at risk' are being contacted from this week by their local GP-led vaccination service to have their vaccinations. If you are unsure as to whether you are 'at risk', a good indicator is that such people are usually called by their GP practice every year to have their free flu jab. [See more information about the 'at risk' group](#). Note that those in the 'at risk' group are not currently able to book online or by phone and must await their invitation.

Priority group 6 - informal carers: Informal carers are also eligible in group 6, and further information as to how carers will be identified and invited for their vaccinations will be available within the next few days. Note that where a cared for person is classed as 'at risk' and is housebound, and where it is clinically appropriate to do so, their carer will be vaccinated at the same time, if present.

(C) Book your jab - priority groups 1-4

A reminder that people aged 70 and over who have not yet been vaccinated and who would like to, are now able to contact the national booking service directly to arrange an appointment.

People can go online - www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination
or call 119

(D) Get your jab if you work in a care home

Sussex GP Dr Daphne Coutroubis explains why it's so important for care home staff to get their COVID-19 vaccine and answers common queries and concerns.

- [Watch the video](#)
- [Read more about vaccinations for health and care workers](#)

(E) Brighton Centre availability on national website

We are aware that today, a technical issue with the national booking website has meant that not all vaccination centres have been visible for booking. This has included the Brighton Centre.

The national booking team are working to resolve this and expect it to be available for booking again shortly. In the meantime, the Brighton Centre continues to be fully operational and is vaccinating all those who are already booked in.

(F) Sussex achieves significant milestone as top four priority groups all offered their vaccination

More than 460,000 people have now had their first COVID-19 vaccination in the first phase of the roll out to our communities.

Thanks to the hard work of our vaccination teams, we have achieved the national target and across Sussex more than 90% of everyone aged 70 and over has received the first dose of their vaccination.

Further to this, we have offered the vaccination to everyone in the four priority groups and remain committed to ensuring those remaining in those groups are vaccinated as soon as possible.

We are working with our local authorities, community networks and the voluntary and community sector to support people within our diverse communities to ensure everyone is able to have access to the vaccine.

[Watch a message from Adam Doyle, Sussex ICS Leader, on this significant milestone.](#)

(G) Clarification of early years vaccination eligibility

We are aware that misleading information has been shared nationally on social media which suggests that nursery staff, childminders and other early years workers are currently eligible for vaccination.

At present, only those frontline health and social care workers identified by the Joint Committee on Vaccines and Immunisation (JCVI) in priority cohort 2 are eligible. This includes those directly working with people clinically vulnerable to COVID-19 who need care and support. It does not include those working with children who do not have underlying health conditions that put them at greater risk of serious illness from COVID-19.

The Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years, along with other professional associations, has issued a statement clarifying that the JCVI guidance remains unchanged and that that childcare practitioners are not currently eligible.

In Sussex, we continue to vaccinate people in the priority cohorts set by the JCVI, and local authorities are helping to identify eligible social care staff. People who may have booked in error are asked to wait their turn so we can prioritise those eligible for vaccination, including older residents and those who are clinically vulnerable.

People who are not eligible are urged not to book an appointment. If they do, they can expect to be declined the vaccination when they attend.

- [Read more about workforce vaccinations in Sussex](#)

(H) Vaccine Q&A in five South Asian languages

It is important to us that we are sharing information in formats and languages to reach our diverse communities.

The BBC's Asian Network asked listeners to send in their questions about the vaccine to have them answered by experts. Areas raised by listeners range from the vaccine's long-term effects to whether the ingredients are halal or vegetarian-friendly.

[Watch online](#) as Divya Chadha Manek from the UK Vaccine Taskforce addresses their concerns in English.

For those who may not have English as a first language, doctors have also answered the questions in five languages: [Gujarati](#), [Punjabi](#), [Sylheti](#), [Tamil](#) and [Urdu](#).

You can also find out more information about the vaccine rollout in the [five South Asian languages here](#).

(I) Roving service (care homes and those who are housebound)

Vaccinations for those who are housebound are underway carried out by GP practice or Primary Care Network teams and Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust.

You will be contacted when an appointment is available.

People are being contacted directly by the team at their GP practice, Primary Care Network or GP led vaccination service to arrange an appointment. Importantly, people will be contacted before a visit is made so that the appointment is confirmed and the person at home is expecting the NHS vaccination team.

At the same time, we understand that people who may be housebound are also receiving a letter from the national booking service inviting them to go online or call the national phone line to book an appointment at one of the vaccination services or pharmacy led services. Currently the national system cannot distinguish that someone is housebound and so these letters are being sent to all those who are eligible.

If you are housebound and are not able to attend a local vaccination service or centre, please ignore this letter. You are on the list with your GP led vaccination service team and they will contact you - you do not need to call your GP practice or any other team to make an appointment. As soon as an appointment is available you will be contacted directly.

(J) Updated questions and answers

A full FAQ is available here:

<https://www.sussexhealthandcare.uk/keepsussexsafe/sussex-covid-19-vaccination-programme/faqs-about-the-covid-19-vaccine/>

I am a full-time informal carer and understand I will be vaccinated in priority group 6. Can you tell me how the vaccination services will know that I am a carer and to call me with other group 6 people?

We are currently working with the main carers organisations across Sussex to determine how informal carers will be identified. If you are a member of any carers organisations, they will be able to advise you nearer the time, however if not, we would advise you to keep an eye on your local carers organisation's website for updates. These organisations are as follows:
Carers Centre for Brighton and Hove - <https://www.thecarerscentre.org>
Care for the Carers, East Sussex - <https://www.thecarerscentre.org>
and Carers Support West Sussex - <https://www.carerssupport.org.uk/>

Can I get the vaccine if I'm not living at my usual address?

Any resident registered temporarily with a Sussex GP practice is entitled to receive their vaccine through that practice. They will be included in the correct priority group and invited

for vaccination as appropriate. If you are not registered with a practice you should call your nearest practice to register as a temporary resident.

If a person has registered but their temporary registration has ended, or the practice has closed its list, they can call this number for help: NHS England Customer Contact Centre on 0300 311 22 33.

Will I miss my vaccination if I am in hospital?

If you are in hospital when you become eligible for your vaccination, you will be able to have it when you are discharged. It does not matter if the next priority group is already being vaccinated; everybody eligible will be able to have the vaccine. However, if you were in hospital with COVID-19 you must wait until at least four weeks after the onset of symptoms or the date of your first positive COVID-19 test.

When you are out of hospital you can call your GP to inform them that you are now ready to have the vaccination, and they will arrange for you to have an appointment at your local GP-led service. Alternatively, you can book online or by telephone to have your vaccination at a large vaccination centre. Visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/> or dial 119 to book.

Can I have the COVID-19 vaccination while fasting?

We have received a number of enquiries about whether people can have the vaccination while they are fasting as Ramadan approaches.

The [British Islamic Medical Association](#) has provided helpful information, including the latest update about fasting and COVID-19 vaccinations.

The Association says that receiving either of the two COVID-19 vaccines currently licenced in the UK does not invalidate the fast and it encourages individuals not to delay their vaccination on the account of Ramadan.

How to find your NHS number

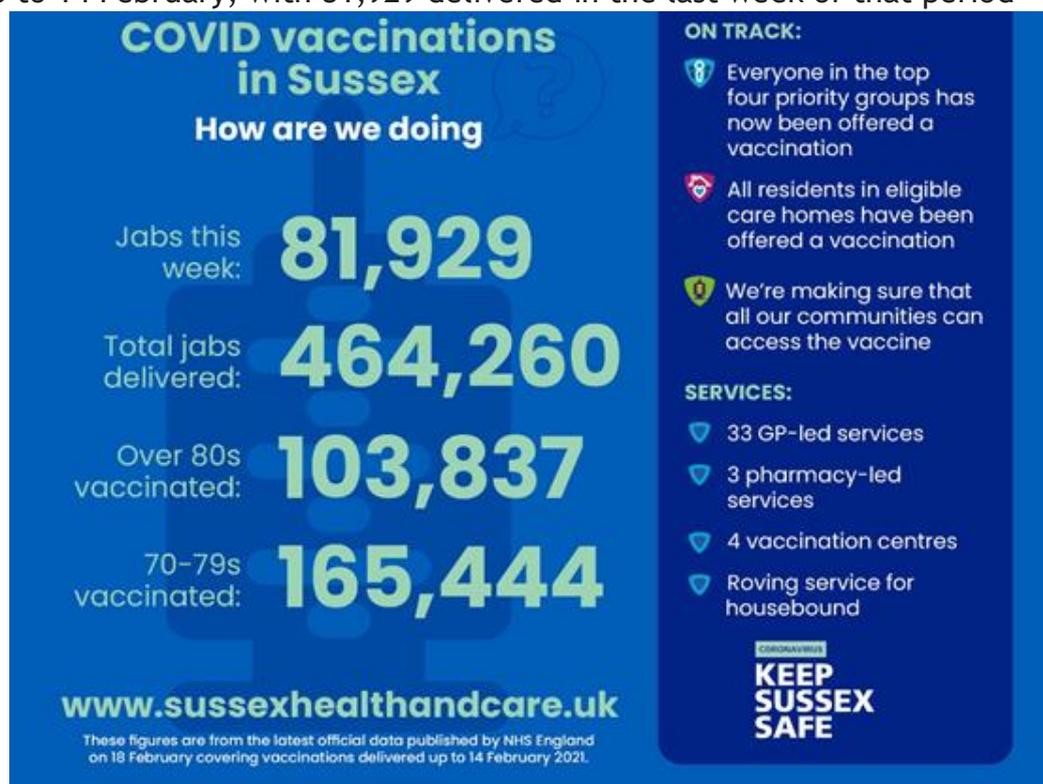
Use this [NHS service](#) to get your NHS number.

Your [NHS number](#) is a 10-digit number, like 485 777 3456. It is on any letter you receive from the NHS.

You do not need to know your NHS number to use NHS services, but it can be useful to have it. We will ask for your name, date of birth and postcode. We will send a text, email, or letter with your NHS number to you.

(K) Latest vaccination data published

Data published today by NHS England showed that 464,260 vaccinations were delivered in Sussex up to 14 February, with 81,929 delivered in the last week of that period



The COVID-19 vaccination programme continues to be rolled out across our communities. The top line brief from this week is:

- The Sussex system has achieved the national target to deliver >90% vaccinations for all those over the age of 70 by Feb 15th.
- We have offered the vaccination to everyone within the first four priority groups and remain committed to ensuring all those in these groups are vaccinated if they have not received it to date.
- To date more than 477,463 vaccinations have been delivered across Sussex, including 464,950 first doses.
- We are working with our local authorities, community networks and the community and voluntary sector to support communities where there are people who have not had the vaccine to ensure they are able to have access.
- We are now moving to provide the vaccination to those in the next priority groups. Cohort 5 (over-65s) have begun to receive letters in the post inviting them to book onto the national booking system to access the vaccination centres or pharmacy led services, or they can wait to be contacted by their GP led service. Cohort 6 (16-64 with underlying health conditions) will be invited to attend their GP-led local vaccination service.

➤ [See the full latest data on the NHS England website](#)

In the latest data up to 4th February 2021 in Sussex

- Over 375,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccination have been delivered.
- 100,911 people over the age of 80 in Sussex have received their first dose. This is the fourth highest total in England and all the more impressive in the context that Sussex has one of the highest over 80s populations in the country.
By 7th February, 90% of over 80s had received their first dose, along with around 80% of the 70-79-year-old population.
- In addition, over 130,000 people under the age of 70 have been vaccinated, including clinically extremely vulnerable people and eligible health and social care workers.

Our current position is:

Priority 1 - Residents and staff in a care home for older adults - all older peoples care homes have received first dose vaccinations with the exception of a small remainder of homes who have been deferred due to an outbreak. Vaccinations for these homes have been scheduled.

Priority 2 - People aged 80+ and frontline health and social care workers and aged 80+ - the majority of people aged 80 and over in Brighton and Hove have been completed. If anyone has not received their vaccination and would like it, please contact your GP led vaccination service or the national booking system as soon as possible. Front line NHS staff have received first dose vaccination and we are working to ensure that remaining care staff vaccinations are completed.

Priority 3 - Aged 75-79. 87.9% of those aged 75-79 have received the first dose vaccination in Brighton and Hove.

Priority 4 - Aged 70-74 and Clinically extremely vulnerable individuals - 85% of those aged 70-74 have received the first dose vaccination. We have identified those who are clinically extremely vulnerable and to date 80.1% have been vaccinated.

11 /02/21	Sussex		Brighton and Hove	
Priority group	First dose	%	First dose	%
Age 80+	103,862	92.7%	10,060	86.5%
Age 75-79	72,033	93%	6,825	87.9%
Age 70-74	94,252	90.7%	9,568	85%
Age 65-69	50,379	51.9%	7,291	60.1%
Clinically extremely vulnerable individuals	57,053	87.7%	7,662	80.1%

English	To book your COVID-19 vaccination appointments go to www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination or phone 119 which will have interpreters available on request.	For more information in other formats, and languages other than English, go to: http://bit.ly/adultguide
Arabic عربي	انتقل إلى COVID-19 لحجز مواعيد اللقاح ضد www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination أو اتصل برقم 119 الذي سيوفر مترجمين فوريين عند الطلب.	لمزيد من المعلومات بتنسيقات ولغات أخرى غير الإنجليزية، انتقل إلى: http://bit.ly/adultguide
Bengali বাংলা	আপনার কোভিড-১৯ টিকার অ্যাপয়েন্টমেন্টের বুকিং এর জন্য www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination এ যান বা ১১৯ নম্বরে ফোন করুন যেখানে অনুরোধ সাপেক্ষে দোভাষী পরিষেবা সুবিধা পাওয়া যাবে।	অন্যান্য প্রকরণ এবং ইংরেজী ব্যতীত অন্য ভাষাতে আরও তথ্য পেতে এখানে যান: http://bit.ly/adultguide
Spanish Español	Para reservar sus citas de vacunación contra la COVID-19, vaya a www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination o llame al teléfono número 119, donde tendrá intérpretes disponibles previa solicitud.	Para obtener más información en otros formatos e idiomas distintos del inglés, visite: http://bit.ly/adultguide
Farsi فارسی	برای رزرو قرارهای واکسیناسیون کووید-19 خود به www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination مراجعه کرده یا به شماره 119 زنگ بزنید که بنا به درخواست، مترجم همزمان در اختیار دارند.	برای اطلاعات بیشتر در فرمتهای دیگر، هر زبان دیگر به غیر از انگلیسی، به اینجا مراجعه کنید: http://bit.ly/adultguide
Gujarati ગુજરાતી	તમારી કોવિડ-19 રસીકરણની એપોઇન્ટમેન્ટ બુક કરવા માટે www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination પર જાવ અથવા 119 પર ફોન કરો જેઓ વિનંતી કરવાથી દુભાષિયા ઉપલબ્ધ કરાવી આપશે.	ઇંગ્લીશ સિવાયના અન્ય સ્વરૂપો અને ભાષાઓમાં વધુ માહિતી માટે, અહીં જાઓ: http://bit.ly/adultguide
Hindi हिन्दी	अपनी COVID-19 टीकाकरण अपॉइंटमेंट की बुकिंग करने के लिए www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination पर जाएं या 119 पर फोन करें जहां अनुरोध पर दुभाषिए उपलब्ध होंगे।	अन्य प्रारूपों, और अंग्रेजी के अलावा अन्य भाषाओं में अधिक जानकारी के लिए इस वेबसाइट पर जाएं: http://bit.ly/adultguide

Kurdish سۆرانی	بۆ سازکردنی مهوعید بۆ کوتان دژی کۆفید-19 سەردان بکە بۆ www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination یان تەلەفون بکە بۆ 119 کە وەرگیری زانایان هەمیه به داواکردن	بۆ زانیاری زیاتر به شیوازی تر، وه به زمانی تر جگه له ئینگلیزی، سەردان بکە بۆ http://bit.ly/adultguide
Nepali नेपाली	तपाईंको COVID-19 खोप एपोजन्टमेन्ट लिन www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination मा जानुहोस् वा 119 मा फोन गर्नुहोस् जहाँ अनुरोध गर्दा दोभाषेहरू पनि उपलब्ध हुनेछन्।	अन्य स्वरूप, र अङ्ग्रेजी बाहेक अन्य भाषामा थप जानकारीका लागि, यहाँ जानुहोस्: http://bit.ly/adultguide
Punjabi ਪੰਜਾਬੀ	ਆਪਣੀਆਂ ਕੋਵਿਡ-19 ਟੀਕਾਕਰਨ ਅਪਾਇੰਟਮੈਂਟਾਂ ਬੁੱਕ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination 'ਤੇ ਜਾਓ ਜਾਂ 119 'ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਜਿੱਥੇ ਬੇਨਤੀ ਕਰਨ 'ਤੇ ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੋਣਗੇ।	ਹੋਰ ਫਾਰਮੈਟਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਤੋਂ ਇਲਾਵਾ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਵਧੇਰੇ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਲਈ, ਇਸ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ 'ਤੇ ਜਾਓ: http://bit.ly/adultguide
Polish Polski	Aby umówić wizytę na szczepienie przeciwko COVID-19, należy udać się na stronę www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination lub zadzwonić pod numer 119, pod którym na żądanie dostępni są tłumacze ustni.	Więcej informacji w innych formatach i innych językach jest dostępna na: http://bit.ly/adultguide
Romanian Română	Pentru a vă programa pentru vaccinarea împotriva COVID-19 accesați www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination sau apelați numărul de telefon 119, care vă poate pune la dispoziție interpreți disponibili la cerere.	Pentru mai multe informații în alte formate și alte limbi în afară de limba engleză, accesați: http://bit.ly/adultguide
Somali Soomaali	Si aad u qabsato ballantaada tallaalka COVID-19 aad www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination ama taleefoon u dir lambarka 119 khadkaas oo laga heli karo turjubaano marka la weydiisto.	Macluumaad dheeraad ah oo ku saabsan qaabab kale, ama luqado kale aan Ingiriis aheyn, aad: http://bit.ly/adultguide
Albanian Shqiptare	Për të rezervuar takimet tuaja të vaksinimit COVID-19 shkoni në www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination ose telefononi numrin 119 i cili do të ketë në dispozicion përkthyes sipas kërkesës.	Për më shumë informacion në formate të tjera dhe gjuhë të tjera përveç anglishtes, shkoni te: http://bit.ly/adultguide
Tagalog Tagalog	Para mai-book ang iyong mga appointment sa pagpapabakuna laban sa COVID-19, pumunta sa	Para sa higit na impormasyon sa iba pang mga format, at mga wika maliban sa Ingles, pumunta sa:

	www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination o tumawag sa 119 na kung saan may maaaring tumulong na mga interpreter kapag hiniling.	http://bit.ly/adultguide
Urdu اُردُو	کوویڈ-19 کے حفاظتی ٹیکے لگوانے کے لیے اپنی اپوائنٹمنٹ بک کرنے کے لیے www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination پر جائیں یا 119 پر کال کریں جہاں پر درخواست کرنے پر مترجم دستیاب ہوں گے۔	دیگر فارمیٹس، اور انگریزی کے علاوہ دیگر زبانوں میں معلومات کے لیے جائیں: http://bit.ly/adultguide
Chinese 中文	欲预约您的 COVID-19 疫苗接种，请访问 www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination 或拨打 119，可根据要求提供口译员服务。	欲获其它格式及英语以外其它语言的更多信息，请访问： http://bit.ly/adultguide



You can sign up to receive regular bulletins and information from Healthwatch.

Please email office@healthwatchbrightonandhove.co.uk

Share your experiences of health and social care services with us:

office@healthwatchbrightonandhove.co.uk

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