

COVID-19 VACCINATION

Healthwatch website

We have created a dedicated vaccine webpage on the [Healthwatch Brighton and Hove website](#) which is being regularly updating. 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. We have also created a [Vaccine “Fact Check” webpage](#) to provide you with accurate information about the vaccines

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](#). Read this ‘[fact check](#)’ page which tackles some of the biggest concerns and inaccuracies.

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

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A. Clarification about current eligibility for a vaccination

We know there is currently some confusion around who is currently eligible for a vaccination and who will be eligible in the future. To help with this, we have set out the timeframe for when people can get their jab and how they go about it.

Priority groups 1 to 4

We have now offered the vaccination to everyone who

- lives in care homes and care home staff
- is extremely clinically vulnerable
- is aged 70 or over
- is health and social care staff

More than 90% of people aged 70 and over have received the first dose of their vaccination.
How to get your jab

If you are in any of the first four priority groups and have not had your jab, please book online at www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination, call 119 free of charge, or contact your GP-led service.

Priority groups 5 and 6

You are now eligible for the vaccination if you are:

- aged 65 and over
- on the GP Learning Disability Register
- 16 to 65 with an underlying health condition
- eligible for Carer's Allowance

How to get your jab

If you are 65 and over, you can either book your jab online at www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination or by calling 119 free of charge, or you will be contacted by your GP led vaccination service.

If you are aged 16 to 65 and have an underlying health condition (such as severe asthma, diabetes, or lung disease), or you are a carer or on the Learning Disability Register you will be contacted to have your jab by your GP led vaccination service.

Priority groups 7 to 9

People who are:

- 60 years and over
- 55 years and over
- 50 years and over

If you are in one of these groups, we are aiming to vaccinate you by mid-April 2021.

All other adults

The national and local target is to offer a vaccination to all adults by the end of July 2021.

Find out more

- www.sussexhealthandcare.uk/get-my-jab
- Email: sxccg.vaccineenquiries@nhs.net
- Call: 0800 433 4545 (9am - 4pm, Monday to Friday).

Note: You will not be able to book a vaccine on this number.

(B) 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

**** LAST CHANCE - survey closing 27th February ****

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](https://yoursaysussexhealthandcare.uk.engagementhq.com/when-will-i-get-my-jab?tool=survey%20tool#tool%20tab)

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.

(C) Fact check: Covid-19 vaccinations



You've probably read a lot of things about the coronavirus online, but not everything you have seen is true.

It is important to protect yourself and your loved ones from false information about the coronavirus and the COVID-19 vaccination programme.

Take a look at this [‘fact check’](#) produced by the Sussex Health and Care Partnership which tackles some of the biggest concerns and inaccuracies out there, and sets the record straight with the facts and trusted information.

The British Society of Immunology has shared with Healthwatch some incredibly useful resources which should help answer many of your questions and queries. Please do take time to read the guides or watch the helpful and clear videos which involve medical experts answering your questions.

- [A guide to vaccinations for COVID-19](#) addressing common questions
- [What's in a vaccine](#) an infographic and blog explaining the ingredients found in vaccines.
- [Types of vaccines for COVID-19](#) - infographics on how the different types of vaccine work.
- [COVID-19 vaccine Q&A](#) videos

Further details about all of this are contained in the separate Healthwatch [‘Fact Check’ bulletin](#) and on the [Healthwatch website](#).

(D) Information for people who have been recently vaccinated

The COVID-19 vaccination can prevent serious illness, but protection takes time to kick in. Being vaccinated does not mean you are fully protected, even once you have your second dose. You may still give COVID-19 to someone else.



Although you should get good protection from the first dose, having the second dose should give you longer lasting protection against the virus.

Like all medicines, no vaccine is completely effective - some people may still get COVID-19 despite having a vaccination, but this should be less severe.

The vaccine cannot give you the COVID-19 infection, and 2 doses will reduce your chance of becoming seriously ill.

This [video](#) explains why it's still really important to follow social distancing guidelines, even when you have had your vaccination, to protect yourself and those around you.

(E) People on Learning Disability Register invited for vaccination

It has been announced nationally that people on the GP Learning Disability Register are now eligible for their COVID-19 vaccination as part of priority group 6.

If you have a learning disability and want the vaccine, urgently talk to your GP to make sure you are registered.

Read more about the Learning Disability Register here from Mencap:
<https://www.mencap.org.uk/dont-miss-out>

This will mean more people with learning disabilities will be offered the vaccine more quickly and help ensure those most at risk of death or hospitalisation are prioritised for vaccination.

Those on the GP Learning Disability Register (as well as adults with other related conditions, including cerebral palsy) being prioritised follows the latest advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) who are independent advisors to the government, as people who are severely affected by learning disabilities are at higher risk of death from COVID-19.

It is important everyone with a learning disability checks that they are on the register and asks their GP to go on it if they are not. The local NHS is working in close collaboration with local authorities and other partners to identify anyone else severely affected by a learning disability who is not registered.

COVID-19 Vaccination Easy read materials to share:

- [Easy read leaflet \[Downs Syndrome Association\]](#)
- [Easy read leaflet \[MENCAP\]](#)
- [Easy read leaflet \[PHE\]](#)
- [Top tips for people with learning disabilities and their carers](#)

(F) People added to the clinically extremely vulnerable list to receive letters from the national booking system

More than 20,000 people in Sussex have been added to the list of people who are clinically extremely vulnerable (also known as the shielded patient list) after a new assessment of the health of local communities.

People in this group will have received a letter advising them that they are now on the clinically extremely vulnerable list, putting them at high priority for a vaccination. In the coming days they will also receive a letter from the national vaccination programme encouraging them book their appointment.

If you receive this letter, you can book your vaccination straight away by visiting www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination or by calling 119 free of charge between 7am and 11pm seven days a week. Alternatively, you can wait to be contacted by your local GP-led vaccination service.

Research commissioned by the Chief Medical Officer identified people who may be at increased risk of becoming seriously unwell from coronavirus due to a combination of their individual characteristics and their underlying health conditions.

> [See more information on how this group was identified](#)

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

(G) Sussex reaches half million vaccinations as roll-out continues to progress



Sussex has now surpassed the half million mark of vaccinations to protect those in the most vulnerable groups. This reflects the huge amount of working taking place across the system to give those who are eligible the vaccination as quickly as possible.

The milestone comes as the NHS sets out an accelerated national timetable for the vaccination programme. The commitment aims to ensure that the most vulnerable are vaccinated as quickly as possible, and protection is provided for the whole adult population by the summer.

Last week the NHS in Sussex met the national target for all those in the first four priority groups to have been offered the vaccine by 15 February. Official figures of vaccinations given are published nationally on a weekly basis every Thursday and reflect figures up to the previous week.

Currently services continue to focus on those in the top four priority groups who have not yet had the vaccine, those aged 65 and over and those clinically vulnerable due to an underlying health condition and their carers.

In the coming days, local vaccination services will also start to contact people who are due for their second dose, to make sure that all those who have had one jab receive their follow up appointment.

> [Read more about the vaccination programme in Sussex](#)

(H) The faces behind the figures

With the news that Sussex has delivered over half a million vaccinations, see some of the faces behind the figures, the people who have been coming forward to get protected and the dedicated teams working hard to deliver the jabs as quickly as possible:

> [Watch the video](#)

(I) Information for all women of childbearing age, those currently pregnant or breastfeeding on coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination.

For the latest information please click on the following links

[Easy-read guide on COVID-19 vaccination for women who might get pregnant, who are pregnant or are breastfeeding their baby](#) (scroll down to halfway on the webpage)

[information for all women of childbearing age, those currently pregnant or breastfeeding on coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination.](#)

Midwife Emma Chambers answers some of the common questions about having the COVID-19 vaccine if you are pregnant or thinking of having a baby. [Watch the video here.](#)

(J) 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.

(K) Register with a GP - to support you getting your vaccination

Anyone can register with a GP surgery. You do not need proof of address, ID, or immigration status to register with a GP practice.

Register with your local GP practice today or [find out more online](#)

You might be able to register with a GP surgery that is not in the area you live. [Find out about registering with a GP surgery out of your area](#)

To find a GP near you [click here](#)

If you have problems registering with a GP surgery, call the NHS England Customer Contact Centre on 0300 311 22 33.



(L) 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 aged 65-69 and have been sent a letter inviting me to book my vaccination - what do I need to do

People aged 65 to 69 are the next eligible group for the vaccination.

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 Chichester and Crawley or one of the pharmacy services like in Midhurst.

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.

Can I get the vaccine if I am 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.

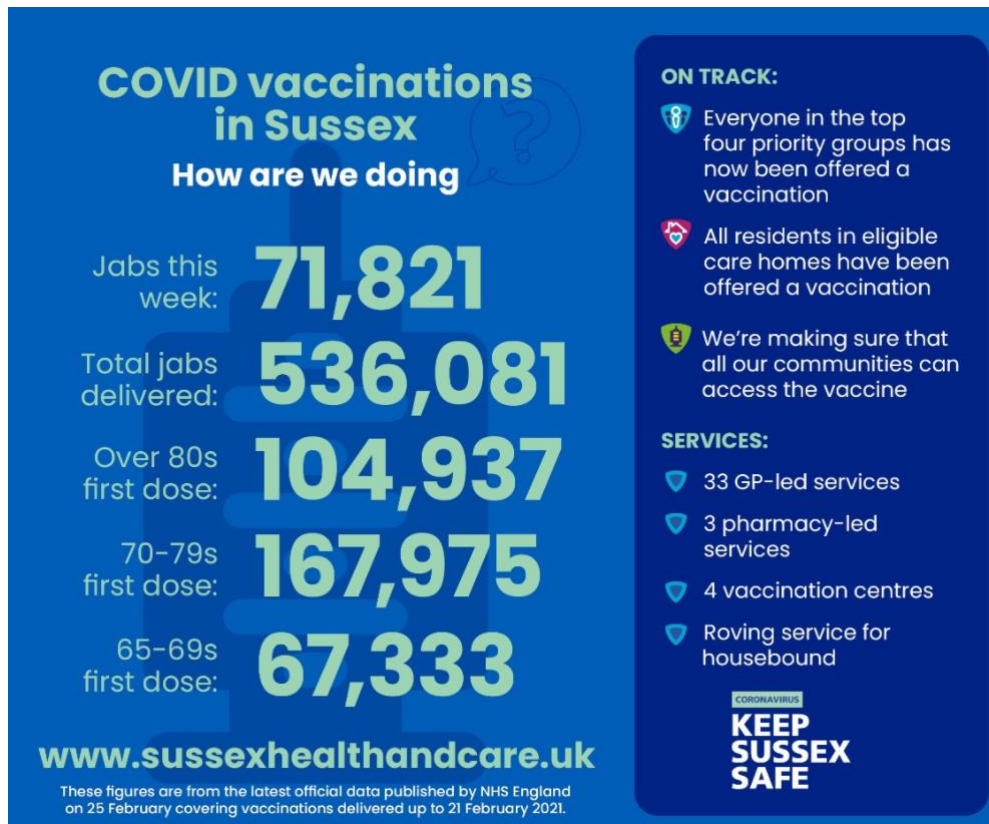
Will I miss my vaccination if I am in hospital?

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.

(M) Latest vaccination data published

Data published today by NHS England showed that 536,081 vaccinations were delivered in Sussex up to 21st February, with 71,821 delivered in the last week of that period.



Data this week shows:

24 /02/21	Sussex		Brighton and Hove	
Priority group	First dose	%	First dose	%
Age 80+	104,583	93.6%	10,245	88.3%
Age 75-79	72,554	93.8%	6,919	89.2%
Age 70-74	95,597	92.1%	9,764	86.4%
Age 65-69	71,095	73.2%	9,383	77.4%
Clinically extremely vulnerable individuals	65,391	78.6%	8,928	68.5%

The latest official national data on vaccinations has been published today, this data reflects vaccinations up to 18 February 2021.

For full data: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/covid-19-vaccinations/>

A summary of activity to date for Brighton and Hove 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 - 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. 89.2% 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 - 86.4% of those aged 70-74 have received the first dose vaccination. We have identified those who are clinically extremely vulnerable and to date 68.5% have been vaccinated.
- **Priority 5** - Aged 65 years and over - 77.4 % of those have received the first dose vaccination in Brighton and Hove.

(N) How to get your vaccine - in different languages

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 سۆزانی	بۆ سازکردنی مەوێد بۆ کوتان دژی کۆڤید-19 www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination سەردان بکە بۆ بیان تەلەفون بکە بۆ 119 که وەرگیرێ زانیان هەمێه 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 एपोइन्टमेन्ट 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 www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination o tumawag sa 119 na kung saan may maaaring tumulong na mga interpreter kapag hiniling.	Para sa higit na impormasyon sa iba pang mga format, at mga wika maliban sa Ingles, pumunta sa: http://bit.ly/adultguide
Urdu اُردُو	کوویڈ-19 کے حفاظتی ٹیکے لگوانے کے لیے اپنی ایوانٹمنٹ 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.

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