

Hertfordshire Local Resilience Forum Stakeholder Update – 2 July 2021

**A message from Darryl Keen, Director of Community Protection,
Chief Fire Officer and Chair of the strategic coordination group of the LRF**



Dear colleague,

I am delighted to be able to report that despite the relatively short time in which the vaccination programme has been available to younger people, more than 54% of our Hertfordshire and west Essex 18-29 years olds have already come forward to have their first dose.

We know that young people have been hit hard by the pandemic, so this enthusiasm to get vaccinated is really encouraging. Please keep sharing the information you have about how and where to get vaccinated with the young adults in your networks.

While the Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca vaccines in use in our area are highly effective, there remains a small chance of catching and spreading COVID-19 even after you have been vaccinated. That's why it's important that we all continue to follow the 'hands, face, space and fresh air' guidance, even after having both doses. One in three people with the virus don't have any symptoms and without taking these preventative measures and carrying out regular 'rapid' tests, risk unknowingly spreading it to their friends and loved ones.

Vaccination update

Super Sunday vaccination success

Nearly 2,000 people were vaccinated at Watford's 'Super Sunday' Pfizer clinic last Sunday (27 June), when Vicarage Road stadium was transformed into a vaccination centre to help reduce infection rates and protect people from new variants of the virus. Congratulations on a huge collective effort from Watford Borough Council, the NHS, Hertfordshire County Council, Watford FC, Three Rivers District Council and a whole host of community organisations and businesses. You can find out more about the event in this [short video](#).

Bumper numbers of walk-in sessions coming up

Walk-in sessions at vaccine centres and pop-up clinics across Hertfordshire and west Essex have been boosting take-up, with around 40,000 people dropping into these sessions without an appointment since May.

In the next seven days alone, there are walk-in sessions planned for: **Bishop's Stortford, Borehamwood, Bushey, Harpenden, Hemel Hempstead, Hoddesdon, Letchworth, Loughton, St Albans, Stevenage, Waltham Abbey, Ware, Watford and Welwyn Garden City.**

A pop-up clinic at [St Teresa's RC Church in Borehamwood](#) is being held on Sunday (4 July) between 10am and 1pm. No appointment is needed and both Pfizer and AstraZeneca vaccines will be available for first and second doses.

You can keep up to date with the latest walk-in sessions here – do keep checking back as new sessions are added every day: <https://covid.healthierfuture.org.uk/events/vaccination-walk-in-clinic-times>

Second doses – adjustment in guidance for people aged under 40.

In Hertfordshire and west Essex, second doses are being given in line with the latest JCVI guidance. For over 40s, that's an 8-week interval between first and second doses. For anyone aged 39 and under, it's now 11 weeks, not 12.

To bring your second dose forward to the recommended interval, you can rearrange your appointment [online](#) or by dialling 119, speak to your GP practice or go to a walk-in session that is offering the same type of vaccine as your first.

Scam warning

'COVID pass' scam warning

There are reports of scam texts doing the rounds which look as though they're from the NHS, telling people they're eligible to apply for a 'Covid Pass' to prove they've been vaccinated. The convincing website form has been designed to mimic the legitimate NHS.uk pages but it asks for payment and personal details in order to apply for the pass.

Please remember **the NHS will never contact you to ask for payment or your bank details.**

A legitimate [NHS Covid Pass](#) is available to demonstrate COVID-19 vaccination status. You may be asked to show this to get into some events where the pass is being trialled, or to travel abroad. It's available free to anyone who has had both doses of an approved vaccine in England. The pass can be accessed through the [NHS app](#) or [NHS website](#), or can be requested as a letter.

To report scam texts, forward them to 7726 or report online at <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

Thank you, Darryl.