

Welcome to the February 2021 edition of Involve - a stakeholder update from NHS Vale of York CCG.

In this edition we have a number of key updates about COVID-19 and the vaccination roll out. Please share messages with your networks, friends, families and colleagues.



### A BIG thank you

Dr Nigel Wells, our Clinical Chair, pays tribute to the dedication and hard work of staff and volunteers which has helped NHS Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group meet the COVID-19 vaccination target to offer the vaccine to everyone in the top four priority groups.



### Please come and register with your GP

We need to make sure that all vulnerable groups are registered with a GP practice in order for them to be assessed for prioritisation of the COVID-19 vaccination. However, we know that there are barriers and hesitancy amongst some groups – in particular the assumption that they need to have a proof of address, or of immigration status or an NHS number.

People do not need these items to register with a GP practice, and we are working with primary care to increase awareness amongst staff.

[Assets to support the campaign are available on our website.](#)

### Update to shielding list

The Department for Health and Social Care announced on 16 February the introduction of a new predictive risk model to help clinicians identify a new group of people who may be at high risk from COVID19.

Up to 1.7 million patients have been identified. Those within this group who are over 70 will have already been invited for vaccination and 820,000 adults between 19 and 69 years will now be prioritised for a vaccination. Those identified will be sent a letter from NHS England in the coming days explaining that their risk factors may help identify them as high clinical risk and that they are included within the support and advice for the clinically extremely vulnerable.

They will be invited to receive a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible and will be given advice on precautionary measures, including shielding. Those with email addresses registered with their GP will also receive the letter in an email. Patients will be notified by email from this week, with most letters arriving the end of this week and into next week. Their GPs are also being notified.

The Government is also extending the current shielding guidance for all those already identified as clinically extremely vulnerable and new patients identified through the COVID-19 Population Risk Assessment until 31 March. Those already on the Shielded Patient List will start receiving letters this week to inform them of the extension.

More information is available in this [press release](#) and on [this webpage](#). We are working to understand who this impacts in the city and will be offering our community support.

### Look after your mental health

The BBC has launched a fantastic new initiative to help people across the country with their mental health and have launched their 'headroom toolkit'.

Whether it is everyday tips, [sounds to relax your mind](#), [strategies to cope with parenting](#) right now or [films to get you talking](#), we are here to help you look after yourself and your loved ones.

Check it out at [www.bbc.co.uk/headroom](http://www.bbc.co.uk/headroom)

### Lung cancer campaign

Despite lung cancer being the third most common cancer in England, suspected lung cancer referrals remain lower than normal. As of December 2020, lung cancer referrals had reached 73% of pre-COVID levels, while referrals for all cancers were just over 100%.

PHE have launched a campaign includes an exclusive interview with cricketer Andrew Strauss, who lost his wife to lung cancer, support from TV presenter Gaby Roslin, who lost her mother to lung cancer, and activity from media medics.

#### Key messages

- If you've had a cough for three weeks or more, and it isn't COVID-19, it could still be a warning sign
- A cough for three weeks or more could be a sign of cancer. Just contact your GP practice
- It's probably nothing serious, but finding cancer early makes it more treatable
- Your NHS is here to see you, safely

[Assets to support the campaign are attached.](#)

### Social Isolation Questionnaire: Addressing Social Isolation through Community Activities

Social isolation or loneliness is one of the major health challenges in York and across the country. Social contact, through activities, can have a positive effect by encouraging learning, physical activity, connection to others, and feeding our curiosity.

This time last year there were around [650 activities](#) listed on Live Well York. These included arts & crafts, food and drink, sports and fitness, social/support groups and many more, brought to the city by a creative and passionate mix of local individuals, groups and organisations.

Some activities have since been adapted to make them COVID compliant, whether that's on-line or in-person. The 47 we're aware of are listed under this "COVID Ready" filter. We're aiming to reach and exceed the 650 mark as restrictions are relaxed, and lifted, and would appreciate your help by taking part in this survey to help us form a picture of what's needed to achieve that goal.

Here's the [Addressing Social Isolation through Community Activities Questionnaire](#).

Please return the survey by **28th February 2021**

### Wheelchair Service User Forum

We host a regular Wheelchair Service User Forum which provides a unique opportunity for people to share their experiences with other service users, clinicians, commissioners and the equipment providers; NRS healthcare.

At the last forum on 23 February we had 24 members attend and covered topics areas such as clinical reviews, how people can access and use personal wheelchair budgets, using services during the pandemic and the development of an engagement strategy.

The next meeting is on 19 May at 2pm. If you would like to attend, please email: [voycg.engagement@nhs.net](mailto:voycg.engagement@nhs.net) or find out more [here](#).

Watch the live stream of our next Governing Body Meeting  
4 March 2021 at 9.30-11am

The Governing Body meets to review progress and agree actions around specific pieces of work. This meeting will be streamed live on [our YouTube channel](#).



### Read all about it - latest news from the CCG

#### Local GPs encourage coronavirus vaccine confidence

General practitioners (GPs) across the region have filmed an important message in multiple languages to encourage vaccine confidence.

Across England, GPs have raised concerns over a low uptake of coronavirus vaccination among patients from ethnic minority backgrounds - warning that misinformation has left some patients reluctant to come forward.

[Read more](#)

#### Hundreds of patients get COVID-19 vaccine in successful launch of new Selby hub

Hundreds of patients have received a dose of COVID-19 vaccine at the newly opened vaccination centre for Selby.

The hub, run by Selby Town Primary Care Network to serve a population of nearly 50,000 people, opened its doors to its first patients on 12 February 12.

[Read more](#)

#### Tribute paid to NHS staff and volunteers as COVID vaccination target hit in Vale of York

The dedication and hard work of staff and volunteers has helped [NHS Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group](#) meet the COVID-19 vaccination target to offer the vaccine to everyone in the top four priority groups.

[Read more](#)

#### 'Please don't be complacent if you've had the COVID-19 vaccine', say health leaders

People in York and North Yorkshire are being urged not to be 'COVID-complacent' – even if they've had the vaccine.

The rollout of the vaccination programme has been going well across the area this month, with those who live or work – including the over-80s, front-line health and social care staff and those who live or work in care homes – the first to get their jobs.

[Read more](#)

#### Selby's Summit Indoor Adventure centre to open as a COVID-19 vaccination hub

Up to 5,000 vaccines a week will be given to vulnerable residents from the Selby area from early next month when the Summit Indoor Adventure Centre opens as a COVID-19 vaccination hub.

[Read more](#)

## THE PLAYLIST

### The Vale of York CCG playlist - our latest videos

[NHS Vale of York CCG hits COVID-19 vaccination target for top four priority groups](#)

Dr Nigel Wells, our Clinical Chair, pays tribute to the dedication and hard work of staff and volunteers which has helped NHS Vale of York Clinical ...

[How Selby's new COVID-19 vaccination centre will work](#)

Dr Nick Jackson, Clinical Director of Selby Town Primary Care Network, walks us through the new COVID-19 vaccination hub at the Summit Indoor Adventure ...

[COVID-19 Vaccination Update | NHS Vale of York CCG](#)

People aged 70 and over who have not yet received the COVID-19 vaccine are asked to contact the NHS to arrange a jab. You can arrange a vaccination online ...

[Selby's new COVID-19 vaccination hub](#)

Dr Nick Jackson, Clinical Director of Selby Town Primary Care Network, updates on the development of the new COVID-19 vaccination hub at the Summit centre ...

[World Cancer Day 2021 | NHS Vale of York CCG](#)

If you're worried about your health or think you may be displaying symptoms of cancer, help us help you and contact your GP. Early detection can help save lives ...

[Look after your mental health in February](#)

Dr Nigel Wells talks about how there's help available with our mental health for all of us, however old or young, as we enter February. Keep up to date with the ...

[Don't Get COVID-19 Complacent | NHS Vale of York CCG](#)

The COVID-19 vaccination programme is rolling out in our area and more people in priority groups are receiving the vaccine. However, it's important to not get ...

Involve is produced by the NHS Vale of York CCG  
Communications and Engagement Team.

If you would like to unsubscribe to this information please email  
[voycg.communications@nhs.net](mailto:voycg.communications@nhs.net)

