

## City and Hackney Covid-19 update – 19<sup>th</sup> March

This update includes an overview of the vaccine delivery to various groups including our residents in current eligible cohorts, health and social care staff and vulnerable individuals. This briefing will also provide an overview of the work taking place, to address concerns around uptake figures.

### **Current eligible cohorts:**

**In line with the JCVI guidance**, we are now vaccinating people in priority groups 1 to 9:

#### Cohorts 1-4:

- **Residents aged 70 or above or [clinically extremely vulnerable \(high risk\)](#):** We are encouraging this cohort to contact their GP if they have not had their first vaccination
- **Frontline health and social care workers:** We are encouraging this cohort to speak to their managers to find out how to get an appointment locally

#### Cohort 6:

- Residents aged 16-64 who are [clinically vulnerable \(moderate risk\)](#) or residents who are in **receipt of a carer's allowance**, or are the **main carer of an elderly or disabled person** who is at increased risk of Covid-19 mortality and therefore [clinically vulnerable](#) - We are encouraging this cohort to please wait for their GP or council to contact them

#### Cohort 5,8 and 9:

- **Residents aged 50-69:** We are encouraging this cohort to please book an appointment using the [national booking system](#) for a list of sites or wait to be contacted by their GP

### **Vaccine delivery overview for residents:**

- We currently have **four local vaccinations sites in City and Hackney:**
  - **Primary Care sites** – Bocking Street and John Scott (booked through GPs)
  - **Pharmacy sites** – Clapton and Mare Street (booked through the national booking portal)
  - **Two additional pharmacy sites** – are launching on 22<sup>nd</sup> March in Homerton and Haggerston (again these can be booked through the national booked portal)
- Eligible patients can choose to be vaccinated at other sites showing on the national booking portal (mass vaccination centre at Excel or pharmacies in neighbouring boroughs)
- **71%** of cohorts 1-4 have received their first vaccination (as of 12<sup>th</sup> March). This is a week on week **increase of 11%**
- **62%** of cohorts 1-6 6 have received their first vaccination (as of 12<sup>th</sup> March). This is a week on week **increase of 12%**

### **Vaccine delivery overview for other groups:**

- **Care Homes:**
  - **91%** of all CQC registered care home residents have received first vaccination dose
- **Housebound patients:**
  - **77%** of all housebound patients have been vaccinated

- **Other vulnerable cohorts:**
  - A number of homeless residents have been vaccinated with The Greenhouse Practice (practice for homeless patients) at Bocking Street Vaccination Centre
  - NHS Excel Centre team are supporting us with vaccinating other vulnerable groups using roving models including sex workers, asylum seeker, mental health patients in secure settings and our traveller community
- **Total health and social staff vaccinated at HUH hospital hub:**
  - **7,062** frontline health and social care workers (including voluntary sector and HUH staff)
- **Planning for second doses and national supply disruption:**
  - Since the start of the vaccination programme supply has gone up and down and we have run clinics and delivered vaccinations according to availability. Up until 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021 over 500,000 people in North East London have already been vaccinated, 20 million across England, and we remain on track to vaccinate everyone (who accepts the offer) over the age of 18 by the end of July.
  - Supplies have already been allocated for the second doses and any reported disruption to supply should not impact on booking appointments or residents ability to access their second dose. We will be communicating to our residents over the coming weeks on how their second dose will be booked.

#### **Addressing concerns around uptake:**

- We know and understand the concerns around the uptake rates within Hackney.
- As the Covid-19 vaccination programme continues to be rolled out in City and Hackney, it is crucial that local communications and engagement approaches reflect the latest vaccine uptake data and community insight
- In particular, insight gathered to date from a number of community conversations, focus groups and surveys identifies that residents from Black African, Black Caribbean and Black British heritage communities are more vaccine cautious. Key themes underpinning this are lack of accessible information, fear of side effects, hesitancy to travel to vaccination sites and wider, longstanding issues around health inequalities and trust in the statutory sector. In addition to the above, current vaccine uptake data tells us that the percentage of eligible residents from Black African, Black Caribbean and Black British heritage communities who have had their vaccine is lower when compared to White, White Other and some sections of our Asian communities
- Delivering our local outreach work, in partnership with our community partners is in line with our commitment to reducing inequalities and co-producing services and initiatives with our communities. We believe that this will help with rebuilding trust with cohorts of our communities who have been disproportionately affected by Covid-19

Leading on from this, there is a huge local partnership effort underway to understand why some of our residents are choosing not to be vaccinated and finding solutions to get them booked in. All system partners are involved and working together on this challenge to encourage eligible people to come forward for their vaccine and refute misinformation.

Work underway by the C&H Covid-19 vaccine communications, engagement and insight task and finish group (set up in February 2021 with input from across system partners – NHS, London Borough of Hackney, City of London Corporation, Public Health) includes:

- **Insight and data:** gathering, collating and analysing insight and using local uptake data to set priorities
- **Inform:** sharing vaccine information via community contacts, VCS and public health community champions (we have over 150 across the community now). Ensuring we have materials in community languages has been key and is something we continue to improve on
- **Involve:** series of community conversations and focus groups in order to understand barriers and enablers. The next community conversation we have planned is on the 1st April with our Asian communities ahead of Ramadan



- **Targeted outreach:** dedicated clinics co-hosted with VCS partners (e.g. evening clinics for our Charedi communities, pop up clinics for our Black Caribbean and Black African communities planned for end of March/ early April)
- **Community led:** working with and through community leaders, VCS organisations and public health champions
- **Evaluate:** working with public health to monitor changes in knowledge, attitudes and behaviour