

**NHS BOLTON CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP – VIRTUAL MEETING**

**AGENDA ITEM NO:** .....8.....

**Date of Meeting:** .....8<sup>th</sup> January 2021.....

<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	COVID-19 Update – Covid Vaccination Programme Update	
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Su Long, Accountable Officer Helen Wall, Clinical Director, Commissioning	
<b>PRESENTED BY:</b>	Su Long/Helen Wall	
<b>PURPOSE OF PAPER: (Linking to Strategic Objectives)</b>	To provide the CCG Board with an update on actions taken in the management of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This month's report highlights the work progressed so far both nationally and locally on the implementation of the Covid 19 vaccination programme.	
<b>LINKS TO CORPORATE OBJECTIVES (tick relevant boxes):</b>	Deliver the outcomes in the Bolton Joint Health and Care Plan.	
	Ensure compliance with the NHS statutory duties and NHS Constitution.	√
	Deliver financial balance.	
	Regulatory Requirement.	
	Standing Item.	
<b>RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD: (Please be clear if decision required, or for noting)</b>	The Board is asked to note and discuss the attached report.	
<b>COMMITTEES/GROUPS PREVIOUSLY CONSULTED:</b>	Bolton COVID-19 Governance CCG Executive	
<b>REVIEW OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:</b>	N/A	
<b>VIEW OF THE PATIENTS, CARERS OR THE PUBLIC, AND THE EXTENT OF THEIR INVOLVEMENT:</b>	N/A	
<b>EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) COMPLETED &amp; OUTCOME OF ASSESSMENT:</b>	An Equality Impact section is included in the report.	

## **1. Introduction**

This paper provides a short update on the current position on the COVID-19 vaccination programme for CCG Board members.

The COVID-19 vaccination programme is the responsibility of NHS England. The Senior Responsible Officer for the programme delivery in Bolton is Dr Helen Wall, Clinical Director of Commissioning, and she is responsible for responding to national direction from NHS England and following national protocols.

As this is a developing situation, with advice being updated all the time, it should be noted that any information in this report was correct on the date of completion.

## **2. Background update on current level of escalation**

Bolton is currently in Tier 4 level restriction with further restrictions expected to be announced imminently. Rates of confirmed positive cases have increased rapidly over the past two weeks and all urgent care services are under increasing pressure caused by the combination of COVID-19 and winter demand.

The Bolton public health team publish a weekly set of data on the Bolton JSNA website at [www.boltonjsna.org.uk/coronavirus](http://www.boltonjsna.org.uk/coronavirus) - this contains more detailed information in graphical form on case rates and deaths.

## **3. COVID-19 vaccine – national position**

There are two vaccines which have been authorised by the MHRA (the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency)

- The Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine - licenced on 2 December 2020
- The 'Oxford' AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine - licenced on 30 December 2020

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) state "both give very high protection against severe disease...and both vaccines have good safety profiles".

Both vaccines have a two dose schedule. The second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine may be given between 3 to 12 weeks following the first dose. The second dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine may be given between 4 to 12 weeks following the first dose.

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) priority order for the covid vaccination has been defined as follows:

1. residents in a care home for older adults and their carers
2. all those 80 years of age and over and frontline health and social care workers
3. all those 75 years of age and over
4. all those 70 years of age and over and clinically extremely vulnerable individuals (except pregnant women and children)
5. all those 65 years of age and over
6. all individuals aged 16 years to 64 years with underlying health conditions which put them at higher risk of serious disease and mortality
7. all those 60 years of age and over
8. all those 55 years of age and over
9. all those 50 years of age and over

The JCVI have estimated that, taken together, these groups represent around 99% of preventable mortality from COVID-19.

In the context of the epidemiology of COVID-19 in the UK in late 2020, the JCVI has placed a high priority on promoting rapid, high levels of vaccine uptake among vulnerable persons. It has therefore advised that delivery of the first dose to as many eligible individuals as possible should be initially prioritised over delivery of a second vaccine dose. This should maximise the short-term impact of the programme.

#### **4. COVID-19 vaccine – Bolton position**

##### **4.1 Hospital hub delivery**

Following the initial hospital hubs of Salford Royal NHS FT, Stockport FT and Manchester FT, Bolton NHS FT commenced delivery of the vaccine to priority patients and staff on 29 December 2020.

##### **4.2 Community based delivery**

Delivery in the community to patients on the registered lists of Bolton General Practices is managed under NHS England contracts and led predominantly by Primary Care Networks (PCNs), each using a site which must be approved by NHS England.

Due to the complexity of the logistics of supply and delivery of the vaccine to these sites across England, rollout has been undertaken in waves.

Wave 1 – Tonge Moor Health Centre site, serving Turton PCN, delivered by the staff across the six Practices, commenced 15 December 2020.

Wave 2 – Lever Chambers Health Centre site, serving initially Rumworth PCN and Farnworth & Kearsley PCN, delivered by Bolton GP Federation, commenced 18 December 2020

To date, over 2000 people have received their first vaccination with the Pfizer BioNtech vaccine in Bolton through these two sites.

### 4.3 Delivery to care homes

Some care staff have received their vaccine as part of the early waves of community delivery at the sites in section 4.2.

The first care home in which vaccines were given to both residents and staff was The Old Vicarage, on 30 December 2020. This was led by Turton PCN and each PCN will be expected to prioritise their local care homes as rollout continues.

## 5. COVID-19 vaccine – future plans

With two vaccines now available and supply expected to increase, it is expected that each area of Bolton will be served by an operational site from the week commencing 11 January 2021. This is subject to authorisation of sites by NHS England.

We have started planning for residents of larger care homes to start to receive their vaccines, due to the complex batch handling and instability of the Pfizer BioNtech vaccine. Now that the Astra Zeneca vaccine has been announced, this will support planning for vaccination of residents of all care homes and also housebound patients.

The initial priority groups of residents in a care home for older adults and their carers, all those 80 years of age and over, and frontline health and social care workers will be included in the first phase of COVID-19 vaccination across Bolton.

## 6. Equality Impact

The priority order for COVID-19 vaccination is set by the JCVI, based on the scientific evidence available.

They state that current evidence strongly indicates that the single greatest risk of mortality from COVID-19 is increasing age and that the risk increases exponentially with age. The absolute risk of mortality is higher in those over 65 years than that seen in the majority of younger adults with an underlying health condition. So the optimal strategy advised for minimising future deaths is to offer vaccination to older age groups first.

The best protection for all vulnerable people, including Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups, is good uptake and coverage of the vaccine. Our local priority needs to continue to be to encourage all local people to take up the offer of the vaccine as the age-prioritised programme rolls out. Engagement with faith leaders, local community groups and with care home staff has commenced to support this.

## **7. COVID-19 vaccine – messages for local people**

- The two licenced COVID-19 vaccines have been licenced by the MHRA and have therefore met the safety requirements that all vaccines and medicines are tested against.
- You will not be offered a choice of the vaccines, this is a nationally managed programme by the NHS.
- You will be contacted to make an appointment to have the vaccine. You may be in a priority group and aware that others have been vaccinated. We receive the vaccines in batches and cannot deliver to everyone at the same time. Please be patient and we will get to you as supplies increase.
- Current guidance states you will be called for your second dose of the vaccine 12 weeks after your first.
- Please continue following government advice on social distancing and all COVID-19 restrictions while the vaccine is rolled out over coming months as population level protection will not be achievable for some time.

## **8. COVID-19 vaccine – summary**

The COVID-19 vaccines authorised in England for delivery by the NHS give us all the best opportunity of eventually coming out of the restrictions on how we have lived during this pandemic.

Approval of sites and timing of vaccine delivery is all being managed by the NHS nationally and arrangements may be at short notice. Please bear with us and we will tell you what we know when we can.

## **9. Recommendation**

The Board of Bolton CCG is recommended to note and discuss this update report.

**Helen Wall, Bolton SRO for Bolton COVID-19 vaccination**  
**Su Long, Accountable Officer**

**4 January 2021**