

Briefing from:

Covid-19 Vaccination Programme Briefing for stakeholders in west Norfolk

December 11, 2020

The NHS has planned extensively to deliver the largest vaccination programme in our history. Thanks to an incredible amount of hard work we are delighted to be able to start vaccinating the most vulnerable first.

This week we began vaccinating the first patients in Norfolk and Waveney at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital and the James Paget University Hospitals and this vaccination programme will continue to be expanded over the coming days, weeks and months. As well as the hospital hubs, a number of local GP practices are starting to invite and book eligible patients in for the first dose of their Covid vaccine prior to its arrival next week; those invited will be patients over the age of 80, in line with the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) recommendation.

The vaccination programme will cover the whole of Norfolk and Waveney, including west Norfolk. A number of GP sites are coming on stream next week and one of them will be based in west Norfolk. They will be joined by more practices on a phased basis. We will update you on local developments as arrangements are finalised and confirmed.

Vaccinating all adults will be a marathon not a sprint. Over the coming months people will be invited when it's their turn to be vaccinated. People should not ask their GP or hospital, but please wait for their invite.

All those vaccinated will need to attend a follow up appointment for a booster jab around three weeks later – they will automatically be contacted with an appointment for the booster vaccination.

In the meantime, Covid infection rates remain high and local hospitals are still seeing very poorly patients. To protect ourselves and the NHS this Christmas and beyond we must keep following local tier guidelines - as well as washing our hands, wearing face coverings and staying two metres apart.

If we don't keep doing these things infection rates will go up again, more people will get sick, more people will end up in hospital and there will be even more deaths from this awful disease.

For the latest local news on the vaccine programme in Norfolk and Waveney you can check here: www.norfolkandwaveneyccg.nhs.uk/covid-19-vaccination-programme

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding. Any help you can provide in reinforcing these key messages with local people is much appreciated.