

**HWES COVID-19 Vaccination Advisory Drop In's - (Zoom platform)
Monday 15 Feb 2021 from 17:00 to 17:45
Notes and Actions**

Present

Volunteers: Chris Marks (CM) - Polegate, Linda Pugsley (LP) - Buxted, Janet Springate (JS) - Eastbourne, Dr Isaac Suleman (IS) MBE - Eastbourne, John Curry (JC) - Bexhill, Tony Moore (TM) - Winchelsea, Alan Keys (AK) - Uckfield and Marilyn Eveleigh (ME) - Crowborough

Healthwatch East Sussex Staff- Elizabeth Mackie (EM), Volunteer and Community Liaison Manager, Kate Richmond (KR), Community Engagement Officer, and Sue Wells (SW), Administrator

Board: Roger Sweetman (RS) and Keith Stevens (KS)

Apologies - Julie Meredith (JM) - East Hoathly, Vanessa Taylor (VT), Bernadette Lee (BL) - Seaford, Liz Lash (LL) and Simon Kiley (SK) Evidence and Insight Manager

There is an update to date page on the HW website with information -
<https://healthwatcheastsussex.co.uk/covid-19-faqs/>

Site Update

Bexhill - Received 16/02 - We would like to update our patients that's after our clinics this week we will have a short gap until our next vaccine delivery. This means our next clinics at Sidley Medical Practice will run from Friday 26th February 2021 through to 1st March 2021. We realise this will be frustrating and a disappointment to our patients in groups 5, 6 and 7 but this delay is beyond the control of the local surgeries or PCN. We would like to reassure you we are ready and will be sending out your txt early next week to book in for your vaccination.

As per the recent guidance the PCN led service will be vaccinating group 6. Please click link below. It will give you the list of people who belong to group 6.

<https://www.gov.uk/.../covid-19-vaccination-first-phase...> People belonging to Group 5 will receive communication to attend a local vaccination centre. They will be vaccinating mainly Group 5. We thank all of our patients for your kind messages of support, patience and understanding as we roll out this unprecedented vaccination programme.

Pharmacy Sites - As well as Ticehurst, it was reported that Ore pharmacy were doing vaccines, but does not appear on list - **EM to report**

Site at Rye - It was reported that some people living in Rye are waiting for site to open closer to them, but there is nothing in the system to say if and when this will happen - **EM to check and report back**

Vaccine Cards - It was reported that some vaccine sites and care homes are giving cards and some not, now starting on the 'younger' age range, they all what a card to 'prove' they have been vaccinated - **EM to report**

Care Homes Staff/Carers- There is concern that not all care home staff/carers who visit multiple people have been done in spite of being offered the vaccine. EM reported that there is a lot of work being done to encourage them to have the vaccine and try and understand why they are not taking up the offer.

What is the definition of an underlying health condition? -

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/2021/02/nhs-offers-covid-jab-to-clinically-vulnerable-and-people-65-to-69/>

The JCVI defines clinically vulnerable people as those with:

- Chronic respiratory disease, including chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), cystic fibrosis and severe asthma
- Chronic heart disease (and vascular disease)
- Chronic kidney disease
- Chronic liver disease
- Chronic neurological disease including epilepsy
- Down's syndrome
- Severe and profound learning disability
- Diabetes
- Solid organ, bone marrow and stem cell transplant recipients
- People with specific cancers
- Immunosuppression due to disease or treatment
- Asplenia and splenic dysfunction
- Morbid obesity
- Severe mental illness

Who is doing the pre-assessment and giving the vaccine - It seems depending on the site who does what, some sites have fully trained - 'long term NHS staff' and fully trained, 'short term staff such as air stewards' giving the vaccine, and others have the opposite. It was felt that as more clinically extremely vulnerable people are coming for the vaccine, that the 'long term NHS staff' would be better used to take the pre-assessment information - **EM to report back**

What Health issues need to be known - It was reported that some people are not fully aware of medication they are on and can cause issues when being asked pre assessment stage - **suggested that people are asked to bring a copy of the latest prescriptions would help - EM to report**

HW Survey - We are going to put a survey online on people's 'journey' to the vaccine, so what information they got before the vaccine, how the process of booking the appointment was, how the vaccine was given, information given at the vaccine and how they felt after the vaccine. **We are looking at ways that we can get to those that are not online.**

Covid-19 queries phone line - Thanks to those that have volunteered to help, this is still in the 'soft' release stage, and is expected to go 'live' to the public next week, so expected to have a bit increase in numbers of calls.

Unpaid Carers/Living in same household - Unpaid carers need to register with their GP to ensure they are on the list, so they are called. It seems that people living in the same household are not being 'called' at the same time, **if this is the case, please let the 'system' know when appointment booked** as the system is trying to be as flexible as possible.