

COVID-19 Vaccine Deployment Plan 2021

1. Introduction

Scotland today, like countries across the world, faces unprecedented challenges in the face of COVID-19. Addressing these require us to act early and fast to suppress the virus to the lowest possible level, particularly in light of the new strain which is significantly more infectious than we have seen in the past year. Alongside that work sits the opportunity of the new vaccines produced as a consequence of significant scientific and research work on a global scale.

This Deployment Plan sets out how we will work as fast as supplies allow to vaccinate everyone over the age of 18 and those aged 16 and 17 who are frontline health and social care workers, young carers or have underlying health conditions in Scotland – 4.5 million people. This is the largest mass vaccination programme we have ever undertaken but its importance to the future of each one of us cannot be under-estimated. This national programme requires a national effort and that is underway.

In the national programme we will have the workforce and the infrastructure to vaccinate 400,000 people each week by the end of February. Vaccination will take place in care homes, where needed into people's own homes, through GP surgeries, local vaccination clinics, community pharmacies, mobile vaccination units and mass vaccination centres. The locations used will be chosen to maximise the number we can vaccinate while making it as accessible and easy as possible for people to come to their appointment.

We will issue regular information and communication both nationally and locally so that information is available when and where people need it and through our national booking service which will be available by phone from 1st February, and on line shortly thereafter. We will start to send letters out in the last ten days of January to allow people to attend appointments from February onwards. We intend that as we contact each priority group we ensure that everyone is able to make appointments to receive their vaccine as quickly as possible. In addition we are working closely with our local NHS Boards; the armed services; Local Authority and other key organisations such as St John's Ambulance Service to ensure that the vaccine programme is supported locally and we can offer additional support to help people such as transport to the vaccination centre where that is needed.

We're very grateful for the many offers of help we've had so far – from offers of premises, volunteers to support people being vaccinated and those clinically qualified who want to sign up as vaccinators. If you want to help, please contact the central email offersofsupport.vaccine@gov.scot. We'll make sure you're put in touch with the right person locally.

JCVI Priority	Group	Estimated population
	Social care staff directly involved in the care of their service users and others involved directly in delivering social care such that they and vulnerable patients/clients are at increased risk of exposure This includes, for example, workers in residential care for adults and children, supported housing, and also personal assistants and social workers who have face-to-face contact in the course of their duties including child, adult, mental health officer duties and public protection. It should include Care Inspectorate staff who are required to visit care homes and other registered services. Young people age 16-18 years, who are employed in, studying or in training for health and social care work should be offered vaccination alongside their colleagues if a suitable vaccine is available.	
3	all those 75 years of age and over	190,000
4	all those 70 years of age and over and clinically extremely vulnerable individuals	280,000 over 70 110,000 clinically extremely vulnerable
5	all those 65 years of age and over	280,000
6	all individuals aged 16 years to 64 years with underlying health conditions which put them at higher risk of serious disease and mortality and Unpaid carers*	1,010,000
7	all those 60 years of age and over	280,000
8	all those 55 years of age and over	330,000
9	all those 50 years of age and over	340,000
Total	All JCVI Groups	3,375,000

NB These are indicative estimates, based on data available from Health Boards and the Scottish Care Home Safety Huddle Tool. Please note that people can be part of two priority groups. A 60 year old frontline health and social care worker for example will have been vaccinated as priority group 2, but will also appear in the population numbers for the 60-64 years group. Similarly carers will appear in other priority groups notably by age. Some assumptions and adjustments have been made to minimise double counting individuals who could be in more than one priority group. We recognise for some groups, such as care home residents, the population can change. Therefore ongoing review and quality assurance will take place throughout the vaccination programme to ensure the estimates reflect the latest eligible population for each priority group.