



## 9 November 2023

Dear colleagues,

This bulletin provides need-to-know information from the national COVID-19 vaccination deployment team, supporting Vaccination Centres (VC), Local Vaccination Services (LVS) and Hospital Hubs across the country to deliver the COVID-19 vaccination programme.

If you have any queries, please contact your SVOC who can escalate via the SVOC/RVOC escalation route.

To access links in this bulletin please join the [COVID-19 Vaccination Programme - FutureNHS Collaboration Platform](#). Previous editions of the bulletin are [here](#).

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# Cross-programme updates

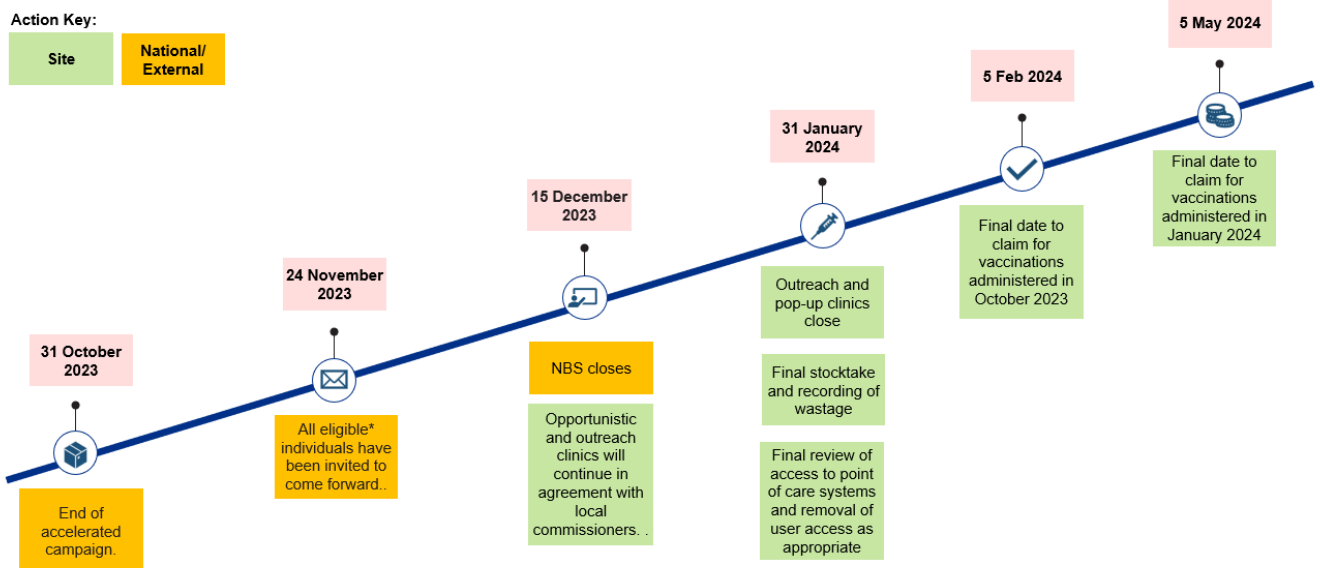
## Key milestones

As we move into the final third of the campaign, there are still plenty of eligible individuals to be vaccinated and a focussed effort should be made to ensure that all those who wish to take up an offer of a vaccination are able to do so, whilst preparing for the campaign end:

- A checklist of key communications activity including materials for site teams to use can be found [here](#).
- Second reminders are now being sent to those who have not yet been vaccinated advising them that the latest date they can book an appointment on the National Booking Service (NBS) is 15 December 2023.
- Site teams should not post clinics on the NBS for dates after 15 December. Walk-in clinics, opportunistic vaccination and outreach however can continue until 31 January if agreed with local commissioners.

Please see below a summary of some of the milestones that you should consider when planning for the next few weeks and months:

## End of campaign milestones



\*Eligibility is in line with [JCVI advice](#)

COVID-19 Vaccine Deployment Programme

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## [New 12 dose \(2 vials\) pack size of Comirnaty® 30 XBB.1.5 to be introduced from week commencing 13 November 2023](#)

To support vaccination sites in the second half of the Autumn Campaign by ensuring vaccine supply is aligned to demand levels, we are reducing the minimum delivery quantity for Comirnaty® 30 XBB.1.5 down to 12 doses (2 vial pack) from 60 doses (10 vial pack). The maximum packed down delivery quantity

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is 36 doses (3 packs). Should a site require more than 36 doses, then this will be supplied in multiples of 60 doses (full-sized packs).

The new smaller size packs will be available for delivery from week commencing 13 November, in line with sites' replenishment requirements. By introducing this new smaller pack size now in combination with the other actions we have put in place to ensure supply is aligned with demand, we hope to support sites in minimising wastage during the final weeks of the campaign.

The linked vaccine consumables for packed down Comirnaty® 30 XBB.1.5 will be supplied in the same quantities as the full-sized pack - 100 combined needles and syringes (CNS) and 60 Patient Information Leaflets (PILs). This is due to the pack sizes of CNS and PILS currently being supplied to the Programme by UKHSA.

To mitigate the oversupply of CNS, there is an on/off logic built into Foundry, which will check when an order is raised for a site to see whether it has received an oversupply of CNS in the past 90 days. If it has, then the system will automatically reduce or remove the CNS from future orders until the residual stock of CNS is less than 50%.

For example: if a site receives a 12-dose pack of Comirnaty® 30 XBB.1.5 and has not received any oversupply in the past 90 days, 100 needles would be sent with the order but no further supplies of CNS would be sent until the site had received a further 48 doses.

### **Children turning 5 years of age part way through a primary immunisation**

Eligible children aged 6 months to 4 years who commence primary immunisation with Comirnaty 3 (THREE) Concentrate and turn 5 years of age before their second primary dose is due (after a minimum interval of 3 months) should ideally complete vaccination with the Comirnaty 3 (THREE) (XBB.1.5) vaccine (this is a licensed indication).

However, a dose of Comirnaty 10 (XBB.1.5) Ready To Use vaccine is a suitable alternative, and is licensed from age 5 years irrespective of prior COVID-19 vaccination history. Vaccination should not be unnecessarily delayed in order to provide a Comirnaty 3 (THREE) (XBB.1.5) vaccine.

### **Vaccination in pregnancy communications resources**

For some, flu and COVID-19 are unpleasant. But for many, including people who are pregnant, they can be very dangerous and even life-threatening. Whooping cough (pertussis) can also be very serious for young babies who are too young to start their routine childhood vaccinations.

Vaccination against flu, COVID-19 and pertussis during pregnancy helps to protect people who are pregnant and young babies against serious illness. To support uptake, communications resources are available to download from the [V&S workspace](#).

The communications toolkit has been updated to include good practice examples that tackle reducing health inequalities during pregnancy. Additional resources include slides from the September vaccinations in pregnancy masterclass.

### [Point of Care Systems](#)

Help us with the next phase to design Point of Care (POC) systems used to capture and report on various vaccination data.

We are working to improve the experience of staff involved with using POC systems to capture and report on vaccination events. This next phase will involve supporting the ongoing design and development of the working end-to-end service based on what we discovered during the previous two phases of the project.

We will be conducting a series of 30 to 60minute research sessions over Microsoft Teams soon. If you'd like to take part, please complete the short form [here](#). If you have previously taken part, please do sign up again for this next phase.

## Further national links and resources

### **Operational notes:**

You can find all the latest operational notes on FutureNHS [here](#).

You can find communications resources on FutureNHS [here](#).

### **Clinical updates:**

Previous editions of the clinical updates, before they were merged with this Bulletin, can be found [here](#).

### **Workforce and Training Bulletin:**

Previous editions of this Bulletin, before it was merged with this Bulletin, can be found [here](#).

Contact your [Lead Employer](#) to access the National Offer and additional staff and vaccinators, as well as support with your workforce needs.

### **Other Resources:**

[Coronavirus vaccinations](#): Our Digital team helps you access up-to-date information, training and onboarding guides related to the tech and data solutions that are supporting the Covid-19 and seasonal flu vaccination programmes.

[COVID-19 Vaccination Programme workspace](#) provides members with access to key documents, resources, webinar recordings and case studies. There is also a discussion forum for members.

[Equalities Community of Practice](#), with bespoke tools, resources and content for engagement and practice in supporting and learning from people and partners within underserved communities and equalities groups.

[Supply and Delivery Hub](#) helps you access key information in a timely way and helps support you to deliver your local vaccination service. Here you will find the latest delivery information alongside the latest supply chain and customer service FAQs and other helpful information.

**All COVID-19 vaccination queries for national teams should be escalated via the SVOC/RVOC/NVOC process. Current SVOC email addresses can be found [here](#).**