



# 7 December 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

### NEW: Vaccine Supply Christmas and New Year Vaccine Delivery Schedule 2023

Please find below the planned vaccine delivery schedule covering the weeks commencing (w/c) 25 December 2023 and 1 January 2024.

**Please Note: There will be no vaccine deliveries made between Saturday 23 December and Wednesday 3 January inclusive.**

Sites planning to carry out vaccinations between 23 December and 3 January must ensure they have requested any additional vaccine via the Supply Planner exceptions process by **19 December**.

All requests for vaccine will need to be approved by system, region and central teams. The decision on whether to approve exception requests depends on the following conditions being met:

- An up to date stocktake for all vaccine types has been completed within the last 3 days prior to the request being made
- Site has booked activity within the next 7 days of the request being made
- Region has considered local stock movement options.

If requests are approved, exception requests processed on the 19 December will be delivered Friday 22 December.

Any sites requiring vaccine for delivery on 4 or 5 January 2024 will need to ensure this is requested no later than Friday 29 December and Tuesday 2 January respectively.

### **Planned Christmas and New Year Vaccine Delivery Schedule:**

Day	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Date	22 Dec	23 Dec	24 Dec	25 Dec	26 Dec	27 Dec	28 Dec	29 Dec	30 Dec	31 Dec	01 Jan	02 Jan	03 Jan	04 Jan	05 Jan
		No Deliveries	No Deliveries	Christmas Day	Boxing Day	No Deliveries	No Deliveries	No Deliveries	No Deliveries	No Deliveries	New Years Day	No Deliveries	No Deliveries		
Revised Delivery Day	N/A	N/A	N/A	Fri 22 Dec	Fri 22 Dec	Fri 22 Dec	Fri 22 Dec	Fri 22 Dec	N/A	N/A	Fri 22 Dec	Fri 22 Dec	Fri 22 Dec	N/A	N/A
Deadline for exception requests	Tue 19 Dec	N/A	N/A	Tue 19 Dec	Tue 19 Dec	Tue 19 Dec	Tue 19 Dec	Tue 19 Dec	N/A	N/A	Tue 19 Dec	Tue 19 Dec	Tue 19 Dec	Fri 29 Dec	Tue 2 Jan

- Please take note of these changes and place all vaccine requests by deadlines
- This schedule is intended as a vaccine delivery schedule only; all site level operational activity should continue to be planned as required.

### **REMINDER: Stocktake frequency**

Following the communication sent on 2 November titled Vaccine Supply Update – Site Stocktake frequency and Targeted Deployment, all sites must ensure they conduct a stocktake every 3 days in order to avoid having their vaccine replenishment blocked. Stocktakes will need to be submitted for each vaccine type held via Site Stock Manager (in Foundry).

The 3 days is applied from the day of the last stocktake. For example: If a site submits a stocktake at 08:00hrs on a Tuesday, they will need to submit their next stocktake no later than 23:59hrs on a Friday. The next stocktake would then be due no later than 23:59hrs the following Monday. Once stocktakes are up to date, vaccine replenishment will recommence. Please note the same rule applies for TDM replenishments and exception requests via Supply Planner.

### **NEW: Flu/Coadmin GP Dashboard Release**

This month we have released a new version of the GP Dashboard. This version builds upon existing COVID-19 vaccination functionality and includes for the first time a new additional flu and co-administration dashboard.

The flu dashboard lists eligible patients who have yet to have the flu vaccination and the co-administration dashboard lists people who are eligible for both vaccines and have not received either.

We appreciate it is late in the season to release this functionality but, whilst it is subject to further development, it is hoped this can be used as an additional tool to help further identify and vaccinate eligible patients.

Further information and support can be found here [GP vaccine dashboard - NHS Digital](#).

We love hearing feedback from our users, so if you would like to share your views on the GP Dashboard please contact [niteshpatel@nhs.net](mailto:niteshpatel@nhs.net).

### **NEW: NHS COVID pass service closure**

The NHS COVID pass closed on 4 December 2023, as vaccination status no longer needs to be demonstrated domestically or for international travel and the pass is no longer needed. Practices may see an increase in the number of people asking about their COVID-19 vaccination information. Most patients can see this information in their GP health record on the NHS App. [The NHS App continues to provide a simple and secure way for people to access a range of NHS services.](#)

### **NEW: Autumn/Winter 23/24 COVID-19 and Flu Campaign – Closure of NBS, NHS App and 119**

As announced [last week](#), from 15 December the national booking service, NHS App and 119 phone service will be closed for winter vaccine bookings. Please

continue to encourage those eligible to come forwards by 14 December whilst it is most convenient to book and ensure they are protected in time for the winter holidays. Materials to support this are in our [national communications toolkit](#). After 14 December, COVID-19 and flu vaccinations may continue through local outreach until 31 January 2024 and 31 March 2024 respectively. Make sure that you have local outreach and engagement plans in place to encourage those yet to do so to come forward for their vaccines – this could include signposting to local booking systems, walk in sites or opportunistic vaccinations.

### **REMINDER: Autumn/Winter 23/24 COVID-19 and Flu Campaign Timing for the End of Campaign**

The autumn/winter 23/24 COVID-19 and flu campaign timing Operational Note shared on 22 November 2023, highlighting dates for ending the autumn campaign for COVID-19 and flu, including an update regarding the Targeted Deployment Model can be found [here](#).

Key dates include:

#### **COVID-19**

14 December 2023: Last day for NBS bookings for COVID-19 vaccinations. Sites should **not** post NBS clinics after this date (appointments can be posted to take place no later than 15 December).

15 December 2023: Closure of NBS for bookings; it will remain open for cancellations only on this day.

16 December 2023 to 31 January 2024: COVID-19 vaccinations may continue for eligible cohorts, where it will improve uptake in the local population.

31 January 2024: Final day of COVID-19 vaccinations for the autumn/ winter 2023 campaign.

#### **Flu**

14 December 2023: Last day for NBS bookings for flu vaccinations. Sites should **not** post NBS clinics after this date (appointments can be posted to take place no later than 15 December).

15 December 2023: Flu vaccinations completed for school aged cohorts.

15 December 2023: Closure of NBS for bookings; it will remain open for cancellations only on this day.

31 March 2024: Final day of flu vaccinations for all other eligible cohorts.

### **REMINDER: IT Licence Terminations**

The Vaccination Deployment Programme distributed a large number of computers (iPads, laptops and Desktops) to each vaccination centre during the past few years. All these computers were set up in 'Kiosk mode' with a number of application software packages pre-installed. **All the software licences will terminate on 31 December 2023**. This means that none of these devices will be able to access vaccination applications after this date unless your site takes some of the following actions:

**LAPTOPS** – Ask your IT support person to install new software on to the laptop.

**DESKTOPS** – Ask your IT support person to install new software on to the desktop.

**IPADS** – Send an email to [VaccinationIT@england.nhs.uk](mailto:VaccinationIT@england.nhs.uk) with a title of ‘iPad factory Reset’ and details of the SERIAL NUMBER of the device (embossed on the back side of the iPad), your NHS.NET email address and your region and site. NHS England will release the iPad from their Mobile Device Management (MDM) domain, and you can then follow some simple instructions which will be emailed to you to ‘factory reset’ the iPad. It can then be used as though it were a ‘new’ iPad.

The above instructions can be followed at any time **before** 31 December. After this date, the computer will not be usable until you follow one of the above instructions.

If your site does not have access to IT Support, then please note that the computer will not be able to access any Vaccination Programme systems after 31 December.

If you no longer wish to use the computer at your site then you must either

1. Arrange to dispose of the computer following Waste electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE) regulations for safely disposing of electrical goods – see [Regulations: Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment \(WEEE\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/waste-electrical-and-electronic-equipment-wEEE);  
or
2. Send your computer (iPad, Laptop or desktop) to **NHS England** for them to re-cycle/dispose of to: **ICT 5th Floor - Vaccine Returns, Wellington House  
133-155 Waterloo Road, London, SE1 8UG.**

## Clinical Update

### [Primary COVID-19 vaccinations for 6 month to 4 year olds in a clinical risk group after AW 23/24](#)

After the close of the Autumn/Winter 2023/24 COVID-19 vaccination campaign, the offer of primary doses for those aged 6 months to 4 years in a clinical risk group will be paused. Sites are advised to not plan COVID-19 vaccination appointments for this cohort beyond 31 January 2024, including for those that have not completed their primary vaccination. Further information will be provided ahead of the next seasonal campaign(s) to clarify if and when this offer can be resumed.

During the inter-seasonal period, those in this age cohort who are severely immunosuppressed (SIS) may receive catch up or additional doses based on clinical judgement, utilising a Patient Specific Direction, as per eligible SIS individuals of other age cohorts. See the [Green Book, Chapter 14a](#) for detailed information.

## 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](#).**