

<b>NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde</b>	<b>Paper No. 22/69</b>
<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>NHS Board Meeting</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>25 October 2022</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Vaccination Programme Update</b>
<b>Sponsoring Director:</b>	<b>Emilia Crighton Interim Director of Public Health</b>
<b>Report Author:</b>	<b>Anne Harkness Director of Delivery and Resilience</b>

## 1. Purpose

**The purpose of the attached paper is to:**

Provide an update on the winter vaccination programme

## 2. Executive Summary

The paper can be summarised as follows:

- By the 17<sup>th</sup> October over 2.9m doses of COVID vaccine had been given to GGC residents; 969,000 individuals have received at least one dose of vaccine and 785,000 are fully vaccinated with a booster.
- Our aim is to have a range of delivery methods available to ensure there are as few barriers as possible to those who wish vaccination being able to access it
- There is a national communications campaign (radio, digital and social media) and this will be promoted locally
- National materials will be provided in other languages including BSL and this will be supplemented locally for other local languages.

## 3. Recommendations

The Board is asked to be assured as to the position with the winter vaccination programme and that work is underway to ensure the timeframe for completion is met.

#### 4. Response Required

This paper is presented for **assurance**.

#### 5. Impact Assessment

The impact of this paper on NHSGGC's corporate aims, approach to equality and diversity and environmental impact are assessed as follows:

- |                        |                               |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Better Health        | <b><u>Positive</u></b> impact |
| • Better Care          | <b><u>Positive</u></b> impact |
| • Better Value         | <b><u>Positive</u></b> impact |
| • Better Workplace     | <b><u>Positive</u></b> impact |
| • Equality & Diversity | <b><u>Positive</u></b> impact |
| • Environment          | <b><u>Positive</u></b> impact |

#### 6. Engagement & Communications

The issues addressed in this paper were subject to the following engagement and communications activity: There is a national campaign regarding winter vaccinations.

#### 7. Governance Route

This paper has been previously considered by the following groups as part of its development: An update was presented to the Population Health and Wellbeing Committee in October 2022.

#### 8. Date Prepared & Issued

Prepared on 18 October 2022  
Issued on 18 October 2022

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## 1. Introduction

This paper provides the NHS Board with an update on seasonal winter vaccinations in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (GGC)

The purpose of the paper is for **assurance**.

## 2. Background

### 2.1 Flu

Flu vaccination is one of the key interventions we have to reduce pressure on the health and social care system this winter.

As the incidence of influenza infection for the last two seasons has been extremely low, immunisation is even more important this year .

### 2.2 COVID

Over the last 2 years, through a combination of vaccine-induced immunity and immunity generated following natural infection (natural immunity), large proportions of the population have developed at least partial immunity against COVID-19. For the 2022 autumn booster programme, the primary objective is to augment immunity in those at higher risk from COVID-19 and thereby optimise protection against severe COVID-19, specifically hospitalisation and death, over winter 2022 to 2023.

By the 17<sup>th</sup> October over 2.9m doses of COVID vaccine had been given to GGC residents. 969,000 individuals have received at least one dose of vaccine and 785,000 are fully vaccinated with a booster

## 2.3 Eligibility

Eligibility for the winter programme is shown below

	FLU	COVID	Note
Individuals aged 50 years and over	Y	Y	
Individuals aged 5-49 years with “at risk” conditions and household contacts of those who are immunosuppressed	Y	Y	risk groups are not the same
Children aged 2-5, primary and secondary school pupils	Y	N	Some will be in groups above for COVID
Infants aged 6 months to 2 years	Y	N	
Unpaid carers aged 16-49	Y	Y	
Pregnant Women	Y	Y	
Health, Social Care Workers in direct contact with patients / clients including housing support and personal assistants	Y	Y	
Non frontline NHS GGC employees	Y	N	
Independent contractors and their patient facing staff	Y	Y	
Nursery, Primary and Secondary school Teachers and support staff in close contact with pupils.	Y	N	
Prison population and prison officers in close contact with prisoners.	Y	N	Some prisoners will be in groups above

It is difficult to generate an accurate denominator for planning and monitoring purposes but it is estimated that over 500,000 people will be eligible for an additional COVID vaccination

For those over 18 the aim will be to offer flu and COVID vaccination at the same appointment if they are eligible

It is not yet known if this level of vaccination will be required in Winter 2023.

## 3. Assessment

### 3.1 Programme

The programme started on 5<sup>th</sup> September. Initially it was planned to complete the programme by Mid-January however, following advice from the national Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) in August this was changed to an aim to vaccinate the majority of those eligible (ie those who have already received their initial boosters) by early December.

The first citizens offered vaccination were those in care homes, those people unable to leave their home and frontline health and social care workers.

Clinics in the weeks of 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> September were principally for NHS and social care staff.

Citizens will be offered vaccination in clinical priority order with the oldest first starting to attend clinics on 19<sup>th</sup> September.

The schools programme started with Additional Support Needs schools.

### **3.2 Delivery Methods**

Our aim is to have a range of delivery methods available to ensure there as few barriers as possible to those who wish vaccination being able to access it.

#### **3.2.1 Childhood Programme for Flu**

Separate clinics are arranged for preschool children.

Primary and secondary school children are being offered vaccination at school.

#### **3.2.2 Adult Flu and all COVID**

Our community clinics operate in partnership with our six Local Authorities and HSCPs. There are 16 separate venues. This is supplemented by a service operated by the Scottish Ambulance service from their bus. Those unable to attend a clinic will be seen at home by their local HCSP. HCSPs will also deliver vaccination in care homes, secure units and prisons.

As services recover from the impact of the pandemic there have been some changes to venues with new locations established in Neilston and Drumchapel. Building work underway in Inverclyde has meant that Port Glasgow Town Hall is not available with services being operated from Greenock.

Hospital inpatients in acute and mental health will be offered vaccination in December if they have been unable to attend a community appointment. 172 Community Pharmacies will be offering flu vaccination to those eligible.

NHS staff are also able to act as peer immunisers for the flu vaccine and 150 members of staff have enrolled to do this.

### **3.3 Booking Methods**

The families of preschool children receive letters with a booked appointment at a local clinic and are able to call the Vaccination Contact Centre to rearrange if this does not suit.

The families of primary and secondary school children receive consent packs distributed via schools. In addition secondary school children who are judged to be able to consent can self-consent on the day of the clinic.

People over 65, people aged 16-49 at risk and families of those under 16 have received a booked appointment by letter.

Those aged 50-64 will receive a letter inviting them to make an appointment on line or by 'phone.

There will be no ability to attend without an appointment in the initial stages of the programme.

### **3.4 Communications**

There is a national communications campaign (radio, digital and social media) and this will be promoted locally.

Internal communications including the Core Brief will be supplemented by briefings to key managers across NHS and social care including private providers, with briefs issued to elected members and other key stakeholders. This has been taken to the Area Partnership Forum and Advisory Committees.

National materials will be provided in other languages including BSL and this will be supplemented locally for other local languages.

## **4 Delivery to Date**

184, 000 flu vaccinations and 179,598 winter boosters have been delivered to adults from the start of the winter programme to Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October.

Data indicates that NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde is on track to have offered the majority of those eligible their winter vaccination by early December.

40000 children have received their flu vaccine.

The winter vaccination programme requires many more staff than the routine vaccination programme and is largely delivered by our bank staff. Initially less staff than predicted took up shifts and this led to citizens waiting much longer than we would wish for their vaccination. On a small number of occasions our clinics have had to close early.

Those citizens affected by this are being contacted and offered another appointment.

The Workforce team have worked with the service on a number of strategies to increase the number of staff working in the vaccination service with 75 additional staff joining the team to date, 64 due to join in the weeks of 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> October.

## **4. Recommendations**

The NHS Board is asked to

- Note the progress underway with the seasonal vaccination programme
- Support the promotion of vaccination

## **5. Implementation**

The Public Health Directorate, Acute, HCSP and corporate teams are working to deliver the programme

**6. Evaluation**

A weekly report on the number of vaccinations given is shared at the Strategic Executive Group.

Levels of uptake will be kept under review and additional efforts made to address any areas where uptake is less than expected

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A lessons learned exercise will be undertaken in January 2023.