



Department
of Health &
Social Care

CARE

Adult Social Care Delivery Directorate
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To:

Older adult care home providers
Older adult care home managers

CC:

Local Authority Chief Executives
Directors of Adult Social Services

18 March 2022

Rollout of COVID-19 Spring Boosters

Dear Colleagues,

On 21 February, the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) issued new advice¹ on a round of spring COVID-19 boosters for adults aged over 75, the immunosuppressed and, crucially, all residents in a care home for older adults.

The primary aim of the COVID-19 Vaccination programme is to reduce the risk of serious illness from the virus, particularly among those who are most vulnerable to severe disease. Therefore, in accordance with the latest independent advice from the JCVI, only the most vulnerable groups will be called forward this time for a spring booster vaccination.

Thanks to your efforts, as of 6 March, over 89% of older adult care home residents had received a COVID-19 booster. This is a fantastic achievement, and we continue to be grateful for the efforts made across the sector to drive and encourage uptake of COVID-19 vaccines.

While resident booster uptake is high, around half of older adult care home staff are still to receive a first booster dose, and so we encourage everyone to keep promoting

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/joint-committee-on-vaccination-and-immunisation-statement-on-covid-19-vaccinations-in-2022/joint-committee-on-vaccination-and-immunisation-jcvi-statement-on-covid-19-vaccinations-in-2022-21-february-2022>



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vaccine uptake across the sector and to encourage those who are eligible to come forward to receive their booster. Vaccines continue to provide our best defence against the virus.

The spring booster vaccination visits can commence from Monday 21 March. NHS roving teams will be in contact with care providers in advance to arrange the visits. Care home staff should commence the consenting process for residents, if not already done so, in order to be ready for their visit.

These visits are also an opportunity to offer vaccination to new residents and to care home staff who have not yet received a full primary course of the vaccine or booster dose.

Please ensure these opportunities for vaccination are taken and encourage and support your residents and staff to receive their appropriate dose during the roving team visit.

As before, we have a range of materials which you can use to help promote vaccinations for staff including Q&A leaflets, posters, social media content and stickers. You can [download digital versions here](#).

In February, the Taskforce on COVID-19 Boosters published a paper on good practice for local systems in order to improve vaccine uptake in the social care sector. This can be found [here](#).

The UKHSA has produced a [guide](#) to the spring booster for those aged 75 years and residents in a care home for older adults.

Please continue to make use of our [communications toolkit](#). It includes additional materials which you can share, and is updated as new assets become available.

Kind regards,

Claire Armstrong

Director of Adult Social Care Delivery and Covid-19 Response