

Deputy Chief Executive CONNECTS



Dear Colleague,

26/01/2021

I am so proud of the monumental effort of everyone involved in the COVID-19 mass vaccination campaign. We are making good progress and have, as of yesterday, vaccinated 41,790 people in the priority cohorts 1-4 as set by JCVI. We are on target to complete these by mid-February if we continue to receive a good supply of the vaccine.

As of last week, we have now completed vaccinating 69 adult care homes and are on track to complete all adult care homes in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan by the end of this week, if not sooner. Second dose appointments have already been scheduled and soon all residents and staff will have had both jabs.

We have vaccinated all of our in-patients staying in our Mental Health Services for Older People Wards. Our GP partners have also been vaccinating the 80-and-over citizens of Cardiff and Vale UHB and all of our GP practices are now involved in the vaccination programme. Over the next few weeks, people aged 75-79 will start to receive appointments at their GP practice once the over-80s have been completed. People aged 70-74 will now start to receive auto scheduled appointments to attend one of our Mass Vaccination Centres. If you are aged 70 – 74, you will receive a letter and SMS from the Health Board confirming the details of your appointment.

If you're clinically vulnerable and aged 75-79, you'll receive your vaccination at your GP practice. The practice will contact you detailing your appointment. People aged 74 and under who are clinically vulnerable will be automatically be booked in at a Mass Vaccination Centre and contacted by the Health Board with the details.

However, if you're housebound, you'll be contacted by the Health Board and the Mobile Vaccination team will deliver your vaccine for you.

We are making such exciting progress but I must ask you to be patient if you are waiting for your vaccine. The number for the booking centre being shared on social media is putting a lot of strain on our team, which is working as quickly as they possibly can. Appointments are being automatically scheduled and letters are on the way so please do not call the booking centre or your GP demanding a vaccine.

I also must remind you that having the vaccine does not exempt you from COVID regulations such as wearing a mask and practicing social distancing so please continue to do these basic things to keep yourself and others safe.

Martin Driscoll
Deputy Chief Executive

COVID-19 vaccine views amongst BAME communities

In order to complement national evidence, we are working closely with a range of partners to identify views on the local barriers and enablers to informed choice around the COVID-19 vaccine amongst members of Cardiff and Vale BAME communities.

The Muslim Council of Wales and partners are asking for support in circulating an important survey which will inform work across Cardiff and Vale communities around increasing the uptake of Covid-19 vaccinations amongst Black and Minority Ethnic groups. This survey is completely anonymous and participants are encouraged to answer all questions honestly.

You can access the survey [here](#).

This survey is supported by:

- Ethnic Minorities and Youth Support Team Wales
- Hayaat Women's Trust
- National BAME Youth Forum
- Race Council Cymru
- SEF Cymru

Join the Innovation Network for Health and Social Care

Tomorrow, 27th January, the Innovation Network for Health and Social Care in Wales is holding its first virtual meeting of 2021. Over the past 12 months, many health and social care organisations across Wales have reached out to their teams to understand the challenges and solutions that have been most impactful on their services during what has been an unprecedented time.

The Innovation Network for Health and Social Care in Wales will offer members the opportunity to:

- CONNECT with individuals from across the innovation landscape, with representation from health, social care, industry, academia, and many more
- LEARN about innovative solutions and project activity
- SHARE experiences, resources, and skills
- SHAPE health and care innovation activity in Wales

They have an exciting agenda for the winter meeting, where members will hear from health and social care research and innovation leads as they share the learning outcomes from these pieces of work, covering topics such as the wider health and care challenge priorities and how innovation can help tackle them. Find out more on [the Life Sciences Hub Wales website](#).

Bevan Commission launches Above and Beyond Campaign

Our friends and colleagues in the Bevan Commission have launched a new campaign to show support and gratitude for all people who are going 'above and beyond' during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Above and Beyond campaign will enable people to share personal messages to acknowledge the incredible effort and dedication of health and care professionals in caring for people across Wales.

It will also show support and thanks to everyone else going the extra mile and making a big difference during these really difficult times including key frontline workers, communities and the public themselves. The campaign is being run on Twitter and LinkedIn using the hashtag #AboveandBeyond.

I am incredibly proud of all of the staff here at Cardiff and Vale UHB for their dedication to the COVID-19 response and it would be great to see some individual stories reflected on this national stage. If you want to get involved you can read more on the [Bevan Commission website](#).

Caring for patients with learning disabilities – new Hijinx Theatre training videos

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board and Hijinx are launching a new series of training videos online to help train health and social care staff to effectively communicate with, appropriately care for, and support people with learning disabilities and/or autism.

The videos will be shared at a virtual screening and webinar on 27 January 2021 before being available online for anyone to access. I'll share the links to the videos in next week's CEO Connects. These films were made possible with funding from the Cardiff & Vale Health Charity and Arts & Business Cymru.

You can read more on [the Health Charity website](#)



Community Optometry's Accelerate Project

This Accelerate project involves participating optometry practices in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan demonstrating the value of community optometric services and the ground breaking Independent Prescribing services in the community. It has been nominated for a number of awards and will hopefully be rolled out to all Health Boards in Wales.

The Accelerate team created a video about the project which features the work of Optometric Adviser from our Health Board, Sharon Beatty, Optometry Wales Councillor Angharad Hobby and Sali Davis from Optometry Wales. The [full version of the video is here.](#)

Other news and events

Staff Haven at UHW opening soon

A calm and tranquil space will soon be available for staff to use for rest and recuperation at the University Hospital of Wales.

Thanks to funding from a large donation made from Gareth and Emma Bale during the pandemic, Cardiff & Vale Health Charity and the Employee Health and Wellbeing Service has been working with Health Board colleagues to deliver a Staff Haven located at Lakeside Wing at the University Hospital of Wales. The Staff Haven will be open from Monday 1st February 2021.

[Read more](#)

Updated Directory of COVID Third Sector services

Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS) has provided us with a directory of Third Sector front line services, and helplines, which can support people during the Covid-19 crisis. It also includes information about other services and community hubs.

To view a copy of the directory, [click here.](#)

Valentine's Day Raffle

Join our Health Charity Valentine's Day Raffle 2021 to be in with a chance of winning a fantastic Hearts and Chocolate Treat Hamper!

[Read more](#)