

The COVID-19 vaccination programme in Essex

Updated 17/01/21



**The Covid-19
vaccine**

**is rolling out
to the over 80s**

**You'll be contacted when it's your turn.
Find out more at nhs.uk/CovidVaccine**

Overview

- The NHS is vaccinating people in Essex against coronavirus as part of the biggest immunisation programme in NHS history.
- The vaccination programme is well underway and is being ramped up following the recent approval and roll out of the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine.
- Health and care staff are pulling out all the stops to open as many centres as possible to vaccinate the most vulnerable and those who need it most, as supplies become available.
- We now have **four hospital vaccination hubs** and **32 GP-led services** plus and more opening in the next two weeks as **one new large vaccination centre** the programme continues to accelerate.

The COVID-19 vaccines

- Both the Pfizer/BioNTech and Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccines are available in the UK. A third vaccine developed by Moderna has also been given regulatory approval but is not expected to arrive in the UK until the spring.



The COVID-19 vaccines

- The Pfizer/BioNTech, Oxford/AstraZeneca and Moderna vaccines have all been shown to be safe, offer high levels of protection and have been given approval by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, the MHRA, the official UK regulator.
- Through the Government's Vaccine Taskforce, the UK secured early access to seven of the most promising vaccine candidates – totalling over 367 million doses. These include:
 - ✓ 40m doses of Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine
 - ✓ 100m doses of Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine
 - ✓ 17m doses of Moderna vaccine

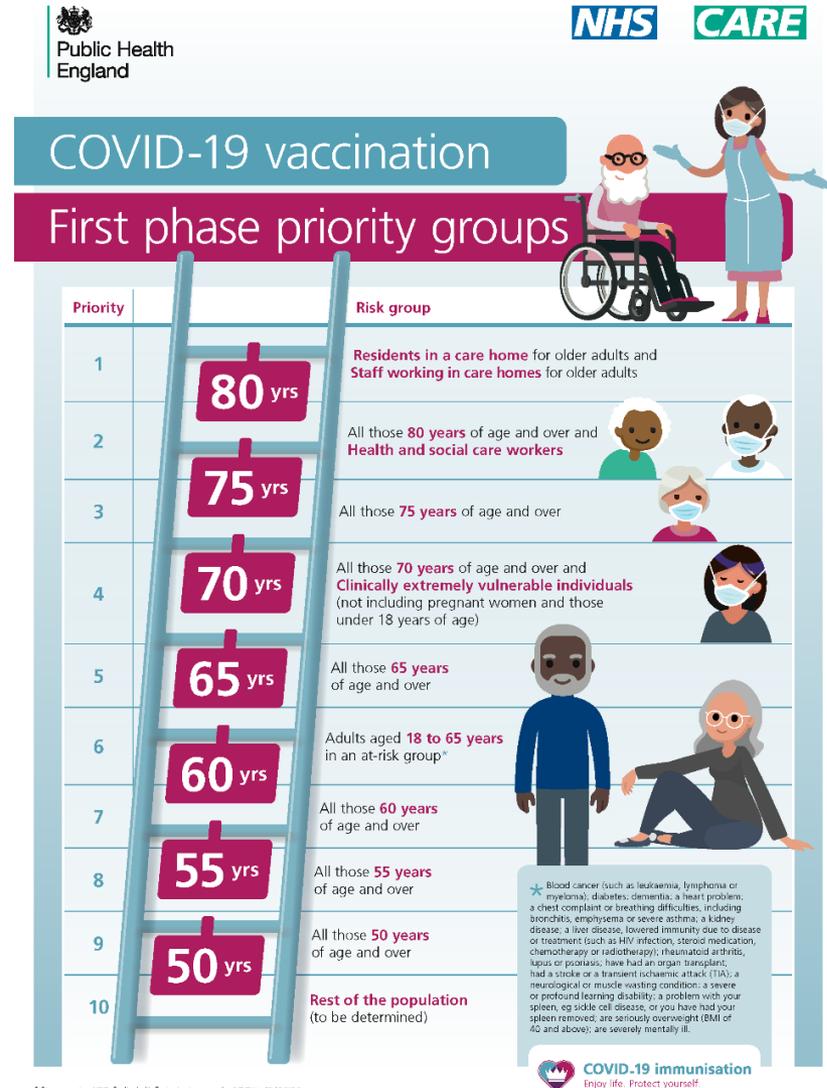


First phase priority groups

The vaccine initially was rolled out in December to those aged 80 and over, care home staff and 'at risk' NHS frontline staff.

This has been extended to focus on care home residents and all frontline health and care staff which will be critical in keeping both them and patients safe.

On 5 January, the Prime Minister announced the NHS expects to offer the first vaccine dose to all those in the **four top priority groups by mid February**. This includes everyone aged 70 and over and those who are clinically extremely vulnerable.



Changes to the second dose

UK Chief Medical Officers

“Prioritising the first doses of vaccine for as many people as possible on the priority list will protect the greatest number of at-risk people overall in the shortest possible time and will have the greatest impact on reducing mortality, severe disease and hospitalisations and in protecting the NHS and equivalent health services.”

- The latest evidence suggests the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine provides protection for most people for up to three months and that the great majority of the initial protection comes from the first vaccination.
- We are limited at the moment with the amount of COVID-19 vaccine in the country and therefore it is very important we vaccinate the maximum number of people at this dangerous period over winter.
- As a result, and to allow more people to benefit from the protection from the first dose, the second dose which was previously 21 days after having the first dose has now changed to 12 weeks after.
- Anyone due to have their second dose after 4 January will now have their appointment rescheduled. People still need to return for their second dose when invited.

Vaccination roll-out in Essex

- Vaccination roll out began in the county on 8 December in hospital vaccination hubs. Basildon and Colchester were among the first hospitals in England to offer the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccination.
- We now have **five hospital vaccination hubs** operating across Essex:
 - Basildon University Hospital
 - Broomfield Hospital
 - Southend University Hospital
 - Colchester Hospital
 - Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow
- All are giving the COVID-19 vaccine to people considered the highest priority – those aged 80 and over, care home staff and frontline priority health and care workers
- They are operating from 8am to 8pm, seven days a week.



Essex GP-led vaccination services

- Hundreds of local vaccination services run by family doctors and their teams started in more than 100 parts of the country in mid December.
- Nurses, paramedics, pharmacists and other NHS staff are working alongside GPs
- Over the last few weeks, the number of GP-led sites has rapidly expanded to **32 locations** as the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine has become available.
- They are also vaccinating the top priority groups, those aged 80 and over, care home staff and frontline health and care staff

Essex GP-led services – locations

People in [mid and south Essex](#) are being invited to [24 sites](#):

- Basildon – Holy Trinity RC Parish Church Hall
- Basildon – George Hurd Centre
- Benfleet – Benfleet Clinic
- Billericay – Emmanuel Archer Hall
- Braintree – St Michael’s Hospital
- Brentwood – The Brentwood Centre
- Canvey Island – The Paddocks Community Centre
- Chelmsford – Melbourne House
- Chelmsford – Rivermead Gate Medical Centre
- Chelmsford – Whitley House Surgery
- Danbury – Danbury Medical Centre
- Earls Colne – Pump House Surgery

Essex GP-led services - locations

People in [mid and south Essex](#) are being invited to [24 sites \(cont'd\)](#):

- Grays - Stifford Clays Health Centre
- Leigh-on-Sea - Highland Surgery
- Maldon – Maldon District Council offices
- Rayleigh – Audley Mills Surgery
- Rochford – Puzey Family Practice
- Shoeburyness – Salvation Army
- Southend – Belle Vue Baptist church
- Southend – Saxon Hall
- South Woodham Ferrers – Crouch Vale Medical Centre
- Westcliff-on-Sea – The Valkyrie Surgery
- Wickford – The Nevendon Centre
- Witham – Fern House Surgery

Essex GP-led services - locations

There are **three services** operating in **north east Essex**:

- Colchester – Colchester Primary Care Centre
- Harwich – The Fryatt Hospital
- Tendering – St Helena Hospice

In **west Essex** there are **five services**:

- Buckhurst Hill - Buckhurst Way Clinic
- Epping – Spencer Close, St. Margaret's Hospital
- Harlow - Lister Medical Centre
- Saffron Walden - Lord Butler Leisure Centre
- Stansted Mountfitchet – Stansted Surgery

New vaccination centres

- On Monday (18 January) [the Lodge at Wickford in Essex](#) is one of ten new large-scale vaccination centres opening this week
- The centre is one of the first in the East of England to open its doors to vaccinate people aged 80 and over, along with health and care staff.
- It offers an additional option for people and [more will be going live](#) across the county in the next few weeks
- We would like to thank local authorities and businesses in the community for supporting the programme to make these happen
- People aged 80 or over living up to a 45-minute drive from the centre are being written to with the option of choosing to arrange a vaccination there through the new national booking service.
- Alternatively people can choose to wait to be contacted shortly by their local GP-led vaccination service.
- [Pharmacy-led vaccination services](#) in Essex will also be joining the vaccination programme in the next few weeks

Care home residents

- Vaccinating care home residents remains a key priority with the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine easier to transport and store than the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine
- A majority of care home residents are expected to be vaccinated by the end of January.
- In Essex, our GP-led vaccination services have started vaccinating care home residents and this is being accelerated.

Be aware of scams



**COVID-19 VACCINE
FACT CHECK**

 The COVID-19 vaccine will always be available free of charge.

 The NHS will never ask you to share bank details to confirm your identity.

If you or someone you know is vulnerable and has been the victim of fraud, call Essex Police on 101. Report fraud or attempted fraud by contacting Action Fraud at actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040

Recruitment



Thank you to the hundreds of people who have come forward to help with the local COVID-19 vaccination programme. As we open more centres in coming weeks, we are still looking for healthcare professionals, administrators and volunteers including

- Registered clinical managers (band 8a)
- Registered healthcare professionals (bands 5 and 6)
- Immunisers (band 4)
- Healthcare assistants (band 3)
- Volunteer stewards

More information at: bit.ly/COVIDrecruit

Key message

Please wait to be contacted

- The NHS will contact you when it's your turn to have the vaccine, so please do not contact the NHS for a vaccination before then
- Please act on your invite when it comes, and make sure you attend your appointments when you arrange them
- Continue to abide by the national lockdown: The single most important action we can all take is to stay at home to protect the NHS and save lives.

Please help us continue to share this message over the coming weeks.

How will people know it's their turn

- When it is the right time, people will receive an invitation to come forward.
- For most people this will be a letter, either from their GP or the national NHS.
- Letters are being sent this week to people aged 80 and over who live up to a 45 minute drive from a new vaccination centre, inviting them to book an appointment through the national booking service online or over the phone
- If it is not convenient for them, they can instead be jabbed at one of their local vaccination centres in the coming weeks.
- People should wait until they are invited and should not call their GP but use the booking line. If an appointment has already been offered by the GP, people can choose which appointment suits them best.

More information

- More information on the local vaccination programme in Essex can be found at:
eput.nhs.uk/news-events/coronavirus/coronavirus-vaccine
- More information on the national programme is available at:
nhs.uk/CovidVaccine

Leaflets

- [GOV.UK: COVID-19 vaccination guide for older adults](#)
- [GOV.UK: why you have to wait for your COVID-19 vaccine](#)