

# Havering Covid-19 Vaccination FAQs

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## When will I be invited to get my vaccination?

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI), an independent group of experts, has recommended that the NHS offers these vaccines to those at highest risk of catching Covid-19 and getting seriously unwell if they do catch the infection. LBH do not set the criteria for the priority, and do not commission or deliver vaccination.

The majority of doses are initially being given to the [top two priority groups](#) and then to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and so on:

1. Residents in a care home for older adults and their carers
2. All those 80 years of age and over and frontline health and social care workers
3. All those 75 years of age and over
4. All those 70 years of age and over and clinically extremely vulnerable individuals

5. All those 65 years of age and over
6. All those aged 16-65 years in an at-risk group
7. All those 60 years of age and over
8. All those 55 years of age and over
9. All those 50 years of age and over
10. Rest of the population (to be determined)

When it's time for you to have your jab, the NHS will send you an appointment – by phone call, letter or text – at one of a small number of specially equipped GP surgeries or sites in the city

There's no need to contact your pharmacy, GP or hospital about this – they'll contact you when the time is right.

On 16<sup>th</sup> February the Government advised that a new group of people will be sent a letter asking them to shield\*. These have been identified by the [COVID-19 Population Risk Assessment](#). The NHS have worked with the University of Oxford to combine a number of factors such as age, sex registered at birth, ethnicity, body mass index (BMI) and specific health conditions and treatments to estimate the risk of a person catching coronavirus and becoming seriously unwell. If you believe you fall into this category, you will be contacted by the NHS when it is time for you to have your Covid-19 vaccination.

\*If you've been told to shield, you're strongly advised not to attend work, school, college or university. You can read the [guidance on who counts as clinically extremely vulnerable](#).

### How will I be invited?

The vaccination programme is being rolled out by the NHS.

The NHS will contact you when it's your turn to have the COVID-19 vaccination.

When it's your turn, you'll be contacted by **letter**, **text** or **phone call** with information on how to book your appointment.

More people are being offered the vaccine every week.

If you're invited to have your vaccination at a larger vaccination centre or at a pharmacy, you'll get a letter.

If you're invited to have your vaccination at a local centre, you'll usually get a text or phone call. You may sometimes get a letter.

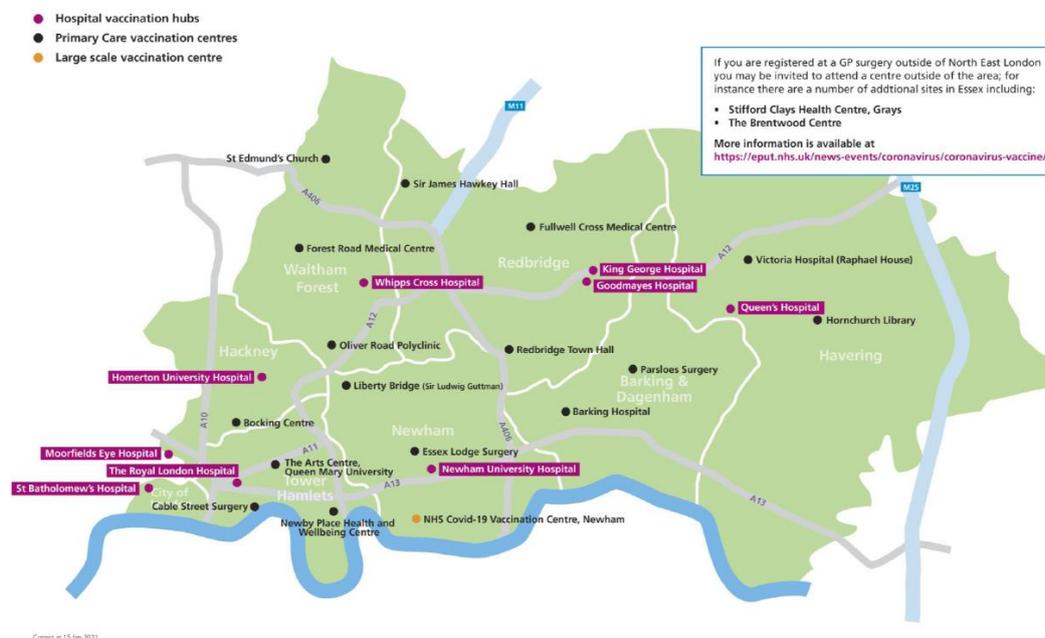
You can choose to go to a larger vaccination centre or pharmacy, or wait to be invited to go to a local NHS service. More places are opening all the time.

### How is the vaccine being rolled out in Havering?

The vaccination delivery is currently being led by the NHS with the support from Local Government. If you are a resident or a member of staff and you are among the eligible priority group, you will receive a letter from the NHS.

- You can then book to receive the vaccine at one of the local sites or other sites offered by the NHS e.g., ExCeL centre.

## North East London vaccination centres



### Where will I get my vaccination?

Vaccination centers are being set up across every borough within north east London to maximize access for local people. Primary Care Networks are also working with GP practices to deliver the vaccine.

However, as appointments are by invitation only the location of where to go to get your vaccine will be given at the time of booking.

Vaccinations are being delivered using vaccination sites. In Havering, the current sites are:

- Queen’s hospital
- Raphael House

- Hornchurch Library
- other sites offered by the NHS e.g., ExCeL centre.

Teams are visiting care homes, those who are housebound and other settings to vaccinate those who are unable to go to a vaccine center.

### What do I need to know about getting the Covid vaccine?

- You are strongly advised to have the vaccination, unless you experience severe allergic reactions, in which case, please speak to your GP.
- When you have your jab, you will be given a leaflet with all the information you need.
- After your first jab, you will be called back between 3 – 12 weeks later for a second ‘booster’
- Although you might get some protection from the first dose, you need two doses of the vaccine for full immunity
- The vaccine has been shown to reduce the chance of you suffering from Covid-19.
  - The Pfizer vaccine has been tested in more than 20,000 people in several different countries and has been shown to be safe and sufficiently effective.
  - The Oxford vaccine has been tested in more than 11,000 people in several different countries and has been shown to be safe and sufficiently effective.
  - The Moderna vaccine has been tested in more than 14,000 people in the US and has been shown to be safe and sufficiently effective.

### I’ve received my invitation but I’m not sure it’s genuine, what do I do?

When it’s your turn to be offered the vaccine, you will be sent a letter, a phone call or a text by the NHS informing you of your eligibility.

This vaccination is free. The NHS will never:

- Ask for payment or bank details
- Ask you to press a button on your keypad on the phone
- Ask you to send a text to confirm booking

If you are still unsure:

- Please consider whether you are in the current cohort for the vaccination
- Ask your friends or family
- Contact the coronavirus hotline:
  - Tel: 0800 368 5201 / Email: [covid19support@havering.gov.uk](mailto:covid19support@havering.gov.uk)

- Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm.
- Saturday, Sunday and bank holidays 11am to 4pm for emergencies only.

### Queries and Contact Details

We will endeavour to answer everything we know, however the covid-19 vaccination programme is being rolled out by the NHS so where this is not possible, please forward your enquiry to [bhrccgs.communications@nhs.net](mailto:bhrccgs.communications@nhs.net), who will be able to assist you with this.

My question has not been answered, what can I do?

Please don't worry! We would like to help you where we can, so [please email](#) your enquiry to us.

# COVID-19 vaccination

## First phase priority groups



Priority	Risk group
1	Residents in a care home for older adults and Staff working in care homes for older adults
2	All those 80 years of age and over and Frontline health and social care workers
3	All those 75 years of age and over
4	All those 70 years of age and over and Clinically extremely vulnerable individuals (not including pregnant women and those under 16 years of age)
5	All those 65 years of age and over
6	Adults aged 16 to 65 years in an at-risk group*
7	All those 60 years of age and over
8	All those 55 years of age and over
9	All those 50 years of age and over
10	Rest of the population (to be determined)

\* Blood cancer (such as leukaemia, lymphoma or myeloma); diabetes; dementia; a heart problem; a chest complaint or breathing difficulties, including bronchitis, emphysema or severe asthma; a kidney disease; a liver disease, lowered immunity due to disease or treatment (such as HIV infection, steroid medication, chemotherapy or radiotherapy); rheumatoid arthritis, lupus or psoriasis; have had an organ transplant; had a stroke or a transient ischaemic attack (TIA); a neurological or muscle wasting condition; a severe or profound learning disability; a problem with your spleen, eg sickle cell disease, or you have had your spleen removed; are seriously overweight (BMI of 40 and above); are severely mentally ill.



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