

Agenda Item 7

LINCOLNSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD – 13 JUNE 2023 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Achieving Smokefree 2030 – cutting smoking and stopping underage vaping

In April, the government [announced plans](#) to make the country smokefree by 2030. It includes the following measures:

- A 'swap to stop' scheme to encourage smokers to make the switch to vaping by providing starter vape kits and behavioural support.
- Financial incentives for pregnant smokers who quit. The initiative will also include vouchers along with behavioural support to assist in a stop smoking attempt.
- A new 'illicit vapes enforcement squad' which will be backed by £3 million of government funding with the intention of enforcing the rules on vaping and tackling illegal sales. The enforcement squad will be led by Trading Standards and will work across the country undertaking projects such as test purchasing and powers to remove illegal products.

The announcement also included a [call for evidence on youth vaping](#) to look at ways to reduce the number of children (people aged under 18) accessing and using vape products. The open consultation closed on 6 June 2023.

Lincolnshire County Council submitted a response giving details of the collaboration between Lincolnshire Public Health and Children's Services to deliver health improvement initiatives in schools linked to smoking and vaping.

Major Conditions Strategy – Call for Evidence

On 17 May 2023, the government announced a [call for evidence](#) on how best to prevent, diagnose, treat and manage 6 major conditions to inform the development of a major conditions strategy. The six major health conditions are cancer, cardiovascular disease including stroke and diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, dementia, mental ill health, and musculoskeletal disorders. Recognising the pressure these conditions are putting on the NHS, the government is seeking views on a new strategy to tackle which will focus not only on treatments but also on prevention.

The call for evidence is open for 6 weeks and closes on 27 June 2023.

Adult Social Care Reform

On 4 April 2023, the government published, ['Next steps to put people at the heart of care'](#). This plan follows the December 2021 White Paper, 'People at the heart of care' and sets out how the government intends to build on the progress made in the intervening period in implementing certain White Paper proposals, as well as introducing new commitments. The plan focuses on the following key areas:

- Improving access to care and support
- Recognising skills for careers in care
- Digital transformation in adult social care
- Personalising care through stronger data
- Improving transparency and accountability
- Supporting people to remain independent at home.
- Driving improvement and innovation

- Joining up services to support people and carers.

COVID-19 Spring Vaccination Programme – update from the Integrated Care Board

Since the launch of the COVID-19 vaccination programme in Lincolnshire, at the end of 2020, more than 1.3 million COVID-19 vaccinations have been given in the county, including more than 304,000 as part of the autumn booster vaccination programme towards the end of 2022.

The unprecedented drive over the last two years to enable people to get vaccinated has been helped enormously by the willingness of Lincolnshire people to come forward for their COVID-19 vaccinations. It has also highlighted the successful partnership working between the NHS and its partner organisations in the county.

We have worked closely with our Primary Care Networks (PCNs) and community pharmacies, who have already played a critical role in the vaccination programme to-date, delivering the bulk of the vaccinations with support from our vaccination centres.

Longer-term, the COVID-19 vaccination programme will be a recurrent part of the NHS's annual vaccination and immunisation programme, which will enable us to deliver the COVID-19 vaccination alongside the flu and pneumococcal vaccines.

Where we are now:

Earlier this year the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) confirmed its advice for a 2023 spring coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination programme.

The spring vaccine has been offered to:

- **Adults aged 75 years and over**
- **Residents in care homes for older adults**
- **Individuals aged 5 years and over who are immunosuppressed.**

Eligible individuals will be offered the vaccine around six months after their previous dose and not less than 91 days since their previous dose. The spring vaccination programme will bridge the gap to the planned autumn programme later in 2023. The spring vaccination programme started on 3 April 2023, with vaccination of care home residents, and will then expand from 17 April to adults aged 75 years and over and individuals aged 5 years and over who are immunosuppressed. The spring vaccination programme ends on 30 June, as will the current/ongoing primary dose 'evergreen' vaccination offer of primary 1st and 2nd doses. People aged 16 and over who are yet to have their primary doses were encouraged to have their first dose by 5 May, in order to allow sufficient time to then administer their second dose by 30 June.

Following the closure at the end of 2022 of the vaccination centre in Boston, from 17 April a vaccination centre was opened in Wainfleet, at the Wainfleet Medical Practice.

As in previous rounds of the COVID-19 vaccination programme, the 'grab a jab' pages on the NHS Lincolnshire ICB [website](#) continue to promote the spring vaccine, particularly details of scheduled vaccination sessions which can be booked, as well as outreach sessions. Our key message remains just the same now as when we started – if you are eligible, please get your covid vaccination as soon as you can. The COVID-19 spring vaccine presents an opportunity to top up your protection against covid and serious illness, hospitalisation, or death.