

COVID-19 Vaccine: The NHS will get in touch when it's your turn to be vaccinated – please do not contact the Surgery before then.

Dear Patient,

The link to this message has been sent to you via a text.

The first phase of the NHS COVID-19 vaccination programme has begun. However, initially the vaccination has been prioritised for those aged 80 and over, care home workers and residents, and frontline health and care staff. These vaccinations will be delivered through a number of designated GP Hub centres, pharmacies and public buildings such as the Excel Centre. Then younger age groups will be invited in time increments. This is a long term vaccination programme spread over several months.

There are two ways to book your COVID vaccination once you become eligible.

You will or will have received a letter from the NHS Immunisation Management Service inviting to book your appointment by providing you the NHS booking website address or by ringing 119. Booking it this way provides access to a number of vaccination sites - pharmacies, the Excel Centre and other public buildings temporarily designated as COVID vaccination centres. The NHS Immunisation Management Service will follow up this invitation by a call from 0300 561 0240 if you still haven't booked yours.

As always, the NHS will never ask you for your financial or personal details. If anyone believes they are a victim of fraud or identify theft they should report this directly to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

The second method is to use the link your GP Practice has sent you to book an appointment directly at a GP Hub – at this time at Bocking Street in E8 or at John Scott Health Centre. It is possible that more centres may be added with time or current centres change. These appointments tend to have a shorter waiting time as they are only for patients who are registered at City & Hackney Practices. Please do not ring your GP Practice if you haven't been sent a link-text from them.

Just below this message on the website are the direction link to the Bocking Street and John Scott Health Centre

Book your appointment EITHER through the NHS website or through the link your GP sends you, NOT BOTH.

If you do not wish to have the vaccination after receiving an invitation, please let them know on 020 8985 1930. If you do not respond, your GP records will be marked as having declined the vaccination.

Please help us and **do not contact the practice or other NHS services** to get an appointment for a COVID vaccination until you get your invitation letter. Please also continue to follow the national guidance to control the virus and save lives.

Information on the vaccine is available on www.selondonccg.nhs.uk/what-we-do/covid-19/