

# **Update**

# ICS update - 3 June 2021

This bulletin provides an update from the Integrated Care System in the North East and North Cumbria regarding our latest information and plans to care for patients, staff and our communities. This Integrated Care System is led by Alan Foster, executive lead. If you have any questions or would like us to send vital information to partners through this bulletin, please contact us here.

### Message from Alan Foster



#### **Bank holiday**

I'd like to start this week's update by thanking those of you who were working over the bank holiday weekend. Your continued hard work is much appreciated. For those of you who weren't working, I hope you managed to get some much-needed down time.

Over the weekend we continued to remind people that, although people can spend time outdoors with friends and family, they should continue to stick to the rules, particularly around hands, face, space and fresh air. You can watch our animation <a href="here">here</a>.

# Latest picture in the region

As of Wednesday 2nd June, there were 25 patients with COVID-19 in our hospitals. This represents a reduction from the 39 patients in hospital the previous week. As ever

we must remain vigilant, especially given the small rise in cases we have seen recently, but this continues to be welcome news.

### **COVID-19 vaccination update**

Another important milestone was reached today as it was announced that half of all UK adults have now received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine. Meanwhile, our region also passed the milestone of 3 million vaccine doses delivered – an amazing achievement. Thank you to everyone involved.

As I'm sure you all know, North Tyneside has seen a surge in testing and vaccinations, with over 3,000 vaccines delivered to people who live and work in the borough over a five-day period last week. Access to walk-in services were also stepped up which is increasing the number of people vaccinated with a view of reducing local levels of infection. You can find the latest updates from North Tyneside Council <a href="here">here</a>.

The MELISSA bus has also been touring Middlesbrough this week, aiming to reach areas where take up of the COVID-19 vaccine has been low in comparison to other areas in the region. Up to 250 doses have been given out each day, you can find out more <a href="here">here</a>. You can also hear from South Tees public health director Mark Adams on BBC Look North <a href="here">here</a>.

I would like to thank staff working across the region, for their continued hard work ensuring that as many people are tested and vaccinated as possible.

In other vaccine news, the <u>Johnson and Johnson vaccine</u> has been approved for use in the UK, which is another welcome boost in our continued fight against this virus.

The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are being offered as alternatives to the AstraZeneca for those aged under 40. As we move down the ages and with second doses progressing well, Pfizer and Moderna will be the most administered vaccine overtaking the AstraZeneca vaccine.

We are now vaccinating people aged 30 and over, and this is expected to open up further very soon. We will be continuing to encourage the public to take up the offer of the vaccine when it is made available to them and we encourage you all to do the same.

At programme level, local modelling is taking place to see if flu and COVID vaccines can be administered together. There is still a lot of elements that are unknown and as soon as more information is available it will be shared.

## Support for our health and care staff

Our staff continue to work tirelessly and it's important we continue to ensure they are all supported. Please do continue to share information about our staff wellbeing hub for all

health and care staff. You can read the latest newsletter from the hub <u>here</u> .
Thank you for all you are doing,
Best wishes,
Alan
Alan Foster is the executive lead for the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System

# Other news and updates

**The R number in the UK:** The latest reproduction number (R) and growth rate of coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK can be found here on <u>GOV.UK</u>.

**Public Health England dashboard:** The Public Health England (PHE) dashboard can be found <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>. Daily reporting includes deaths that have occurred in all settings where there has been a positive COVID-19 test, including hospitals, care homes and the wider community. The report also includes case rates per 100,000 resident population at lower-tier local authority level.

**National flu and COVID-19 surveillance reports:** A link to the weekly national flu and COVID-19 report, monitoring COVID-19 activity, seasonal flu and other seasonal respiratory illnesses can be found <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

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North of England Commissioning Support Unit

NHC-TR.NENCCOVID19@NHS.net

MailPoet