

Adult Care Services
Executive Director: Chris Badger

To Care Providers (via Hertfordshire Care Providers Association) Adult Care Services
Hertfordshire County Council
CH0230
County Hall
Pegs Lane
Hertford, Herts SG13 8DF
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk

**Tel:** 01992 555430

**Email:** Chris.Badger@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Date: 15 September 2023

Dear colleague,

# Re: Prepare for winter with flu and COVID-19 booster vaccinations

I want to thank you and your teams for all your hard work and commitment caring for the people you support in Hertfordshire over the past few years.

As you are aware, this autumn's flu and COVID-19 vaccination programmes have been brought forward as a precautionary measure following the identification of a new COVID-19 variant.

Public Health has already issued letters for <u>care home</u>, <u>supported living</u> and <u>domiciliary</u> providers setting out the different vaccination procedures for the people you all support as well as your staff.

Please encourage your staff to take up the offer of flu and COVID-19 vaccinations at the earliest available opportunity, whether that is through the workplace or other routes.

# To help raise awareness among your staff of the benefit of having the flu and COVID-19 booster vaccinations, please:

- let your staff know how they can get a free COVID-19 booster vaccination and a free seasonal flu vaccination (details are below).
- share the resources available at <a href="www.hcpa.info/staff-vaccinations/">www.hcpa.info/staff-vaccinations/</a>
- share resources and display posters relevant to your care setting available at https://campaignresources.dhsc.gov.uk/campaigns/winter-vaccinations/

### **COVID-19 booster vaccination**

Please remind frontline staff that they can book a COVID-19 booster vaccination through the National Booking Service from 18 September 2023 (for appointments from 19 September 2023) at <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination">www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination</a>

Please continue to update the COVID-19 vaccination status of residents and staff through the Capacity Tracker

# Flu Vaccine

A free NHS flu vaccine is available for any frontline social care staff. Please encourage your staff to take up this opportunity.

More information about the flu vaccine and how to get it is available at: www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/flu-influenza-vaccine/

If you are having problems accessing the NHS programme, please email robin.trevillion@hertfordshire.gov.uk

# Identification needed for vaccinations not in care settings

Your staff will need to take to their flu and COVID-19 booster vaccination appointments:

- a COVID-19 booster vaccination and seasonal flu vaccination letter of entitlement (available on request from the HCPA by emailing <a href="mailto:assistance@hcpa.info">assistance@hcpa.info</a>) or
- photo ID to prove where they work or
- a payslip

For more information about the **COVID-19 and flu vaccination programme** visit the vaccination section on the Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care System's website: <a href="https://hertsandwestessexics.org.uk/winter-vaccines">https://hertsandwestessexics.org.uk/winter-vaccines</a>

Thank you for providing social care in Hertfordshire during what continues to be challenging times. Your dedication is much appreciated and valued.

Kind regards

**Chris Badger** 

( Whole )

**Executive Director of Adult Care Services** 

**Hertfordshire County Council**