



January 2021

Dear all,

We are writing to share the great news that we will be starting to deliver COVID vaccines to our patients from Thursday 14th January 2021.

Vaccine roll out Millennium House (Pensilva) approved - 'Please don't call us, we'll call you!'

The first priority groups are patients aged 80 years and over plus all residents and staff in care homes. We will start with our largest local care home this week.

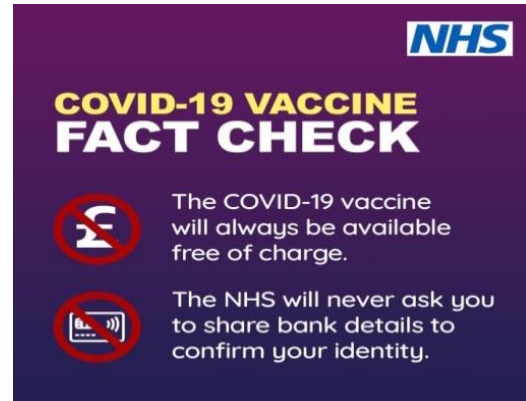
For patients who can get around, the first vaccination will be at Millennium House in Pensilva. This is because the first phase of the roll-out sees surgeries across the UK working together to create large vaccination centres, as you will no doubt have heard of the challenges with the Pfizer vaccine (limited stability at normal temperatures so cannot be moved much). For us, this means working with 9 local surgeries situated throughout East Cornwall, including Launceston, Callington, St. Germans, Torpoint, Saltash, Liskeard and ourselves. It has taken some time to obtain the necessary location approval but we are now good to go.

The hope is to roll out more vaccinations in or closer to Looe, but this is subject to NHS rules and regulations. We are working together to help deliver the biggest vaccination programme the NHS has seen and we thank you in advance for your support, wherever it may be.

Vaccine stock delivery will be on a rolling programme, so unfortunately not everyone who is eligible can be vaccinated at the first clinic. New clinic dates will be added as soon as we have confirmation of further supplies. The message at this time is **'Please don't call us, we'll call you'**, and this is vitally important as we balance managing our other work including dealing with unwell patients daily.

Please be assured that we'll be calling all patients age 80 years as soon as possible, so that we can start to call the next group of patients aged 75-79 years, then 70-74 years and so on. The current guidance is that shielded patients will be called around the same time as patients aged 65 year plus. The information about the groups can be found on the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-care-home-and-healthcare-settings-posters/covid-19-vaccination-first-phase-priority-groups>.

Until you are called in the government guidance remains:



Coronavirus Support Group

As always, we remain in awe of the wonderful volunteers who continue to support the community at this time. If you need help with shopping, or even to get to Millennium House for your COVID vaccination, please contact them and they'll see what they can do. You can reach them 7 days a week, 10am-4pm, on **01503 804099**. Alternatively email support@loometowncouncil.gov.uk

Flu Reminder

With unprecedented winter pressures on the NHS, if you haven't already had your flu jab, please call us (after 10am) on 01503 266 960 to make an appointment as it's so important to keep well at this time

....and finally!

Please be assured that whilst we are committed to vaccinating our patients as soon as possible, including weekend clinics if needed, we are still open during our normal hours. There is extra pressure on our service and staff, so we may temporarily reduce some (routine) services, to minimise footfall or to make staff available for vaccination clinics. Please be patient and respectful to our staff when booking appointments or if your appointment is changed or cancelled, for whatever reason. Continue to contact us if you are unwell and do not delay seeking advice or treatment. For life threatening emergencies, please continue to call 999. Alternatively call 111 or LIVI when the surgery is closed. Stay safe, stay positive and take comfort that there is a glimmer of hope and that a rainbow is on the horizon.

Drs Roy, Kodde, Mogford and Buchanan
Partners, Old Bridge Surgery, and the Surgery Team