

16 March 2021



## Derby and Derbyshire COVID-19 Vaccination Programme | Stakeholder Bulletin #37

Dear colleagues,

This week is an exciting one for the vaccination programme as we will be at 100 days as of Wednesday 17 March. There have been a number of highlights and milestones hit along the way, including 250,000 first doses being given by Valentine's Day and the Prime Minister visiting Derby Arena. It has not been without hurdles to overcome, but we have faced them head on to ensure we keep meeting targets and vaccinating the people of Derbyshire.

I'm sure you will have seen the news coverage surrounding the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine this week following safety concerns. We are following the lead of the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) which is currently advising people to continue to get the vaccine. There has not been any confirmation that the reported blood clots were caused by the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine.

As always, I would be extremely grateful if you could share this update as far and as wide as possible. Thank you in advance of your cooperation.

Best wishes and stay safe.

**Dr Steve Lloyd**  
**Medical Director**  
**NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG**



## Latest developments

Six new pharmacy sites are set to open this week for vaccinations. These are Derby, Sinfyn, Swanwick, Alfreton, Clay Cross and Buxton, and once again give people more choice when they are invited book their vaccine appointment.

Wednesday 17 March marks 100 days since the vaccination programme began in England. Some highlights from the programme rollout in Derby and Derbyshire will be shared on the DDCCG and JUCD social media channels. A lot has been achieved over the last 100 days and everyone involved should feel immensely proud to be part of making it the success it is.

There has been a lot of news coverage this week about some other countries pausing the use of the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine.

This vaccine has been approved by the MHRA, which constantly monitors and updates vaccine safety information. MHRA, the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) all advise that people should still go and get their COVID-19 vaccine when asked to do so.

Some countries have temporarily paused use of the AstraZeneca vaccine to gather more information on reports of blood clots in people who have had the vaccine. However, more than 11 million doses of the COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca have now been administered across the UK, and the number of blood clots reported after having the vaccine is not greater than the number that would have occurred naturally in the vaccinated population. Blood clots can occur naturally and are not uncommon.

MHRA works closely with international counterparts, including the WHO and EMA, to understand the global safety experience of COVID-19 vaccines and to share safety data and reports rapidly.

If you would like more information, you can [visit the MHRA website](#).

## Latest statistics

### UK Summary

See the [easy read summary](#) for the UK.

#### People vaccinated up to and including 15 March 2021

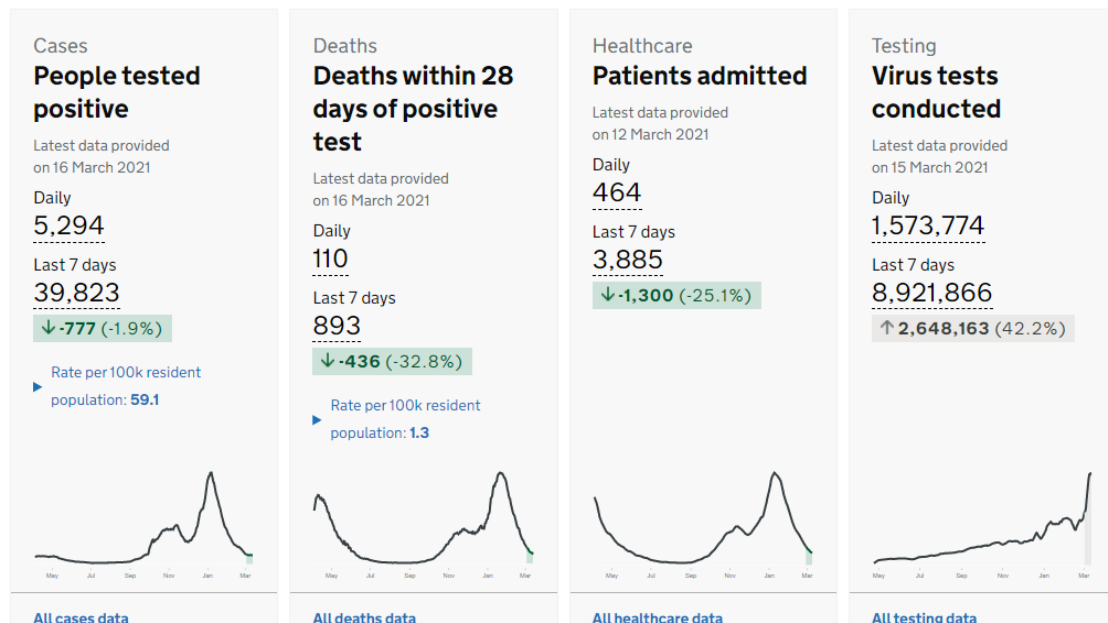
First dose: 24,839,906

Second dose: 1,663,646

[View vaccination data](#)

#### Estimated R number

0.6 to 0.8 with a daily infection growth rate range of -7% to -4% as of 12 March 2021.



## FAQs

### How is Derbyshire doing with the rollout?

- Derbyshire is working through the priority groups as quickly as possible to ensure that everyone who is eligible for a vaccination receives one as quickly as possible. Those areas who started later have caught up so the number of people vaccinated in the priority groups so far is roughly equal across the county.
- So far the rate of vaccinations delivered across our county compares very favourably and we are working as hard as we can to ensure that we reach every milestone date for the completion of vaccinations for each group or cohort set by the government.

### Are there any side effects?

- Like all medicines, vaccines can cause side effects. Most of these are mild and short-term, and not everyone gets them. These are important details which the MHRA always consider when assessing candidate vaccines for use.
- For the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine, like lots of others, they have identified that some people might feel slightly unwell, but they report that no significant side effects have been observed in the over 43,000 people involved in trials.
- All patients will be provided with information on the vaccine they have received, how to look out for any side effects, and what to do if they do occur, including reporting them to the MHRA.

You can find out more about the Covid-19 vaccine [here](#).

## More information

For more information go to the Joined Up Care Derbyshire website [here](#).

## The Next Edition

My next update will include:

- Other latest developments
- Frequently Asked questions

If you have any feedback, or questions, please email us at: [ddccg.enquiries@nhs.net](mailto:ddccg.enquiries@nhs.net). We are sure you will understand that we are very busy, but we will endeavour to respond to all queries within three working days.

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**Disclaimer:**

While every effort has been made to ensure the contents of this bulletin are accurate and up-to-date you will appreciate that the situation relating to the coronavirus pandemic can change rapidly and so NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG does not accept any responsibility of any omission as it is not deliberate. Nevertheless, we will appreciate provision of accurate information to improve our work. Where links are provided to external content, NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG holds no responsibility for such content or accuracy.

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Derbyshire

