

Public Document Pack

Nottingham City Council

Outbreak Control Engagement Board

Minutes of the meeting held at remotely via Zoom on 1 November 2021 from 1.33pm - 2.51pm. Viewable at <https://www.youtube.com/user/NottCityCouncil>

Membership

Present

Councillor Sally Longford (Chair)
Councillor Neghat Khan
Councillor Rebecca Langton
Councillor Adele Williams

Absent

Councillor Eunice Campbell Clark

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Lucy Hubber, Director of Public Health
Paul Dales, Environmental Health Manager
Roz Howie, Covid-19 Programme Director & Senior Responsible Officer for Testing
Hazel Buchanan, Associate Director of Strategic Programmes and (EPRR), Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG
Michelle Lawson, Engagement and Communications
Nancy Cordy, Public Health Executive Officer
John Dexter, Education Director
Catherine Ziane-Pryor, Governance Officer

299 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from:

Councillor Eunice Campbell Clark
Andrew Hayes
Sarah Storey

300 Declarations of interest (items 3-8)

Although not formally required to do so, during consideration of the minutes, Cllr Adele Williams informed the Board that a member of her family was working at one of the sites which may be referred to during the meeting. This did not preclude her from speaking.

301 Public Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 September 2021 were confirmed as a true record.

302 Local Outbreak Management Plan Update

Lucy Hubber, Director of Public Health for Nottingham City Council, delivered a presentation, a copy of which is included with the initial publication of the minutes.

The following points were highlighted:

Outbreak Control Engagement Board - 1.11.21

- a) case rates remained steady over summer months at around 350 per 100,000 per population which is top of the national table. However, local rates declined to the 250s during October whilst rates in other areas in country increased. Currently at 290.4 cases per 100,000, Nottingham is now experiencing an ongoing increase in case rates, mainly in the adult age group and rising whilst in the rest of the country, rates appear to be falling;
- b) there doesn't appear to be any outbreak connection to venues or age groups but it is vital that everyone remains vigilant as we enter the Christmas period where socialising and social contact increases;
- c) from mid-September to mid-October there was a rise in case numbers as children returned to school, particularly amongst secondary school children who were requested to test regularly. Adults case rates also increased steadily during this period, although the sharpest increase in cases was amongst those aged 60 years and over although this is quite a small group so small numbers will have a higher impact on rates. The 40 to 59-year-olds group showed the second largest increase;
- d) case rate increases appear to be linked to behaviour change and increased mobility as citizens go out and socialise more. Rates are lowest amongst the student age group of 18 to 22 years which is a very well vaccinated group within the City;
- e) testing across all ages remains consistent.

Questions from Board Members were responded to as follows;

- f) continued testing is vital. Although not specifically required, primary school children can also be tested, especially when mixing at school and socially and then returning to households with older family members who may be more at risk. Tests are still freely available, once registered online issued with the code which can be taken to pharmacies;
- g) if people are experiencing even mild symptoms such as a cough, they should take a test. The more of us who wear face coverings, the more protected we all are particularly in enclosed spaces. Vaccination is vital, if eligible, it's strongly suggested to accept vaccine booster.

Members made the following comments:

- h) it's interesting how the increase is related to general transmission with behaviour changes and mixing more, particularly in indoor spaces, and not to any events. This underlines the importance of maintaining such easily adaptable measures as face coverings and regular hand washing, which previously kept transition rates low;
- i) the thanks of the Chair are passed to Councillor Adele Williams for writing to the Secretary of State requesting that control measures for public transport and in enclosed public spaces are formally imposed. Maintaining high standards is important and it's disappointing that some of the mandatory requirements retained in Scotland, Wales, such as face coverings in enclosed public spaces, have not been retained in England;

- j) the case rate rise is concerning and we need to consider what more can be done to spread the message to protect each other.

303 Board Member Update - Environmental Health

Paul Dales, Environmental Health Manager, provided following update:

- a) as previously stated, there is very little that the team can do regarding formal enforcement under the current regulations, but good practice is strongly promoted to businesses, with an emphasis on staff and customer safety to reduce the risk as much as possible;
- b) Environmental Health colleagues continue to work with Public Health colleagues to produce incident reports on premises identified as common to multiple cases, to help determine if any further targeted support or advice is required to mitigate risks;
- c) the Health and Safety Executive's approach is also promoted regarding the at work risk for staff and customers, emphasising that businesses need to ensure they are doing all they can to prevent transmission of the virus and highlighting the potential impact on a business if affected by an outbreak.

Paul Dales responded to Board member's concerns as follows:

- d) during of the busy period around Christmas, citizens are advised to wear face coverings where possible. If attending events they are requested to take a lateral flow test in advance and if positive, take a PCR test and self-isolate if the test is positive. Be mindful of space guidelines set by venues which are in place to protect customers, workers and the businesses;
- e) there is concern that some venues are likely to be crowded on the build up to Christmas, particularly after the financial impact of lockdown, but they still need to be mindful of space and ventilation requirements. Environmental Health colleagues encourage businesses to continue to comply and possibly warn customers of the need for ventilation and look for their co-operation if the venue is not as warm as expected, especially as we enter the colder time of year.

Members commented that:

- f) it is a concern that wearing a face mask is a personal choice when not doing so and not following guidelines could endanger other people. Everyone needs to remember that they can carry and transmit the virus without feeling unwell themselves so we need to protect ourselves and each other by wearing face masks and testing regularly.

304 Board Member Update - Access to NHS asymptomatic testing - Community Collect

Roz Howie, Covid-19 Programme Director and Senior Responsible Officer for Testing, provided a presentation updating the Board on access to symptomatic testing and the local

Covid-19 testing strategy. A copy of the presentation is circulated with the initial publication of the minutes.

The following points were highlighted:

- a) within the City there are facilities for symptomatic testing (PCR), asymptomatic testing (lateral flow), with asymptomatic testing in vulnerable settings, outbreak testing, community collect, and events testing;
- b) there are 8 PCR testing sites within the City including: Winchester Street, Spondon Street, Forest Park and Ride, University Park Car Park, Duke Street Car Park, Jubilee Campus Car Park, Southglade Leisure Centre Car Park, NTU Clifton Campus Car Park;
- c) asymptomatic testing using a lateral flow test identifies one in four of all cases reported daily and continues to be the main tool for the autumn and winter strategy in Nottingham to identify cases;
- d) the Community Collect testing strategy focuses on the disproportionately affected and underrepresented, higher risk groups;
- e) lateral flow tests are available from schools for secondary school pupils, and from 28 sites including Community Collect and testing sites. Citizens can receive a set of 7 self-test kits;
- f) community testing cannot be provided for event goers so a separate budget is applied. To date testing for 8 different events at the National Ice Arena has been supported with approximately 90 people requiring specific tests for each event;
- g) Pharmacy Collect is a separate funding stream. Previously citizens could just collect a box of testing kits, but as of 4 October, a QR code was required after online registration or from 111, before tests could be issued. However, following the expression of strong concerns that this complicates access and may deter uptake, pharmacies have now been instructed to issue tests on request, even if a QR code is not provided. This reversal has been welcomed by Health colleagues;
- h) not all pharmacies are registered to issue kits so citizens need to go online to identify those which do. Promotion of regular use and easy access to home testing kits and mobile testing sites is issued almost daily through a variety of media communication routes (including taxi drivers and doctor's surgeries) to reach as many citizens as possible;
- i) several private workplaces across the city are registered to undertake LF 23 testing;
- j) specific community collect sites have been established to encourage engagement disproportionately impacted and underrepresented groups. These sites include, the Indian Community Centre and the Chayah Project (black Caribbean food bank), but tests are also available through services provided to housebound and physically disabled residents, such as meals at home, in addition to some Leisure Centres and Children's Contact Centres in low uptake areas. Tests are available from all Nottingham City Council libraries;

- k) for vulnerable citizens and those with complex needs, on-site testing is available for users of the three asylum seeker hotels, the refugee hotel, domestic violence refuges, and to contact services for homeless and rough sleepers, users of day services, sex workers and people dependent on drugs and alcohol.

Members of the Board commented as follows:

- l) with an average uptake of only about 20 per day at Forest Park and Ride site for asymptomatic testing, further work is required in the area needs to increase uptake. The possibility of approaching the tram operators is being investigated to request their cooperation in placing signs on the tram and at the tram stops promoting the easy access to the test centre if travelling on the tram. It is welcomed that some funding can be arranged to support this;
- m) it's not unreasonable to request that local businesses are asked to promote regular testing for the safety of their customers and staff.

305 Vaccination programme update

Hazel Buchanan, Associate Director of Strategic Programmes and (EPRR) Emergency Preparedness and Response Package, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG, delivered a presentation, a copy of which is circulated with the initial publication of the minutes.

The presentation highlighted the following points:

- a) with regard to hospitalisation, for the last four months, within small variations, numbers had been fairly stable but is currently rising, with 12 % of those being critical patients;
- b) cases are increasing in the age group 45-74 years of age, whilst other age groups are fairly stable;
- c) vaccination uptake has been very good, but the 20-45 year olds have seen the most resistant uptake rate although vaccination continues to be available and is promoted and encouraged;
- d) at 15 of the 21 City and county secondary schools, vaccinations have been available to 12-15 year olds, with the remaining 6 schools scheduled for vaccinations soon. Uptake in each school varied between 19-65% so further promotion will take place at schools with the lower uptake;
- e) uptake for 16-17 year olds has been 41% with a variety of access opportunities which are available to the general population, but also including the vaccine bus visiting colleges;
- f) vaccine boosters are now available for those who received their second vaccine more than 182 days prior, initially prioritising those at higher risk or in constant contact with vulnerable citizens, such as working in care homes, with access initially by invitation to book on line or call 111;

- g) if more than the 182 days since the second vaccination, all citizens can book online or visit the Forest walk-in vaccination site where uptake has been significant at over 1,000 citizens vaccinated to date;
- h) 119 pharmacies across the city and county are providing boosters;
- i) Citizens are being encouraged to have the flu vaccine, particularly those at higher risk of complications, and it is possible for some citizens to have both the flu and Covid-19 vaccinations at the same time.

Members of the Board and those in attendance commented as follows:

- j) it is a concern that the online booking system was incorrectly rejecting some citizens' requests to book a booster, even though they had met the requirement of 182 days from their second vaccination. Not everyone refused will return if they believe they are not eligible, so the additional promotion and encouragement would be welcomed;
- k) the high uptake of 18+ young people is welcomed and it is hoped that the trend will continue with younger groups, particularly with the broader social and economic impact of Covid-19, it is crucial that we all work to get the virus under control.

306 Exclusion of public

Agreed to exclude the public for the remainder of the meeting.

307 Declarations of interest (items 10-12)

See confidential minutes.

308 Confidential minutes

See confidential minutes.

309 Access to asymptomatic testing and uptake of vaccinations

See confidential minutes.

COVID-19 Outbreak Control Engagement Board

01/11/2021

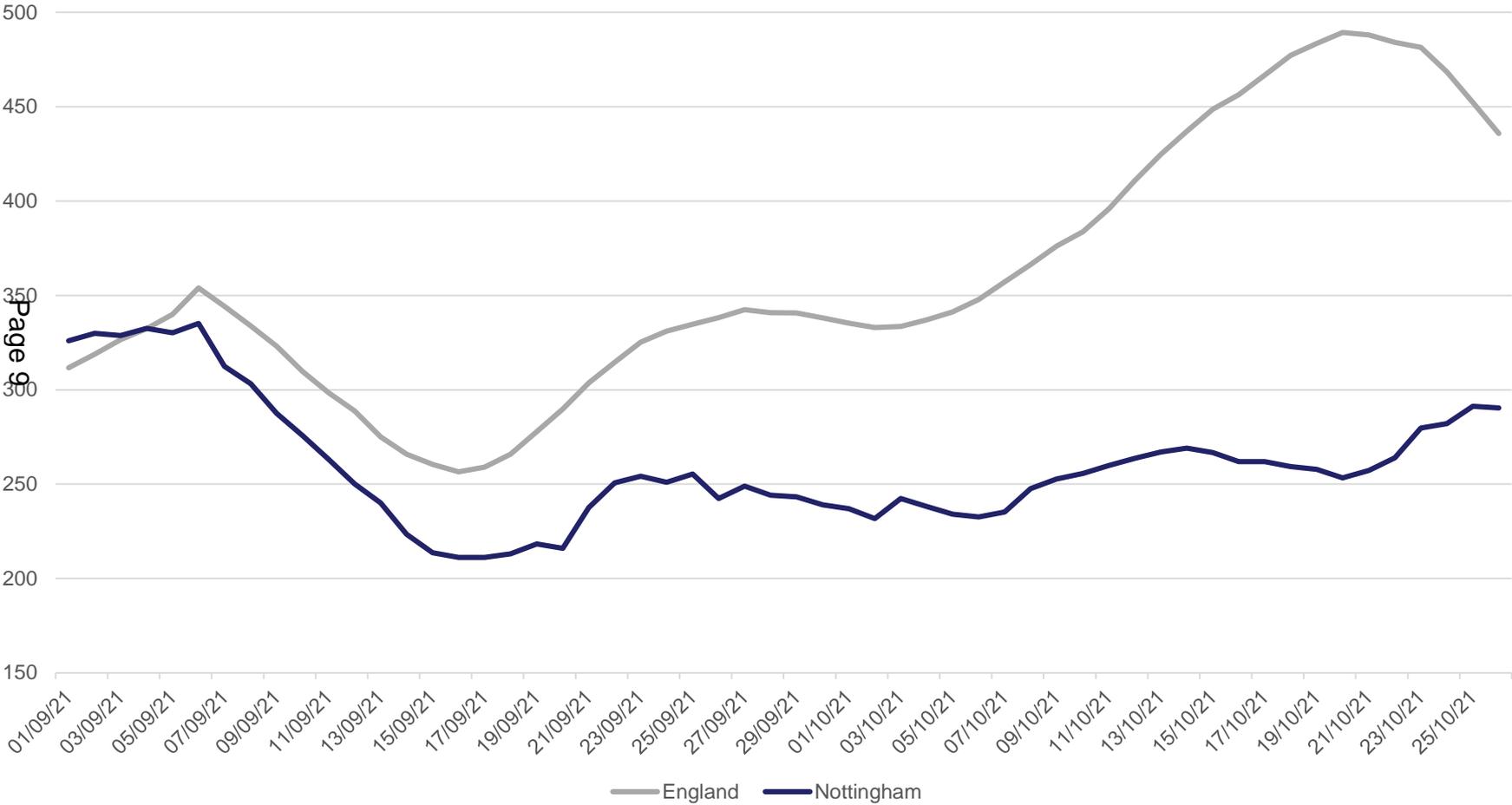
Lucy Hubber, Director of Public Health



Summary of case rates

- Nottingham has had 979 cases in last week (test date 20.10-26.10), which is a 7-day incidence rate of **290.4 per 100,000 population**
- This is a 12% increase on the previous week and follows a period of very stable rates in Nottingham
- Rates remain lower than the England wide rate of **435.8 per 100,000** and are low compared to many other local authorities in the region and nationally;
- However, rates in Nottingham are now increasing whereas the national rate is currently decreasing
- Rates reflect general transmission within the community – there are no outbreaks that are being managed at present

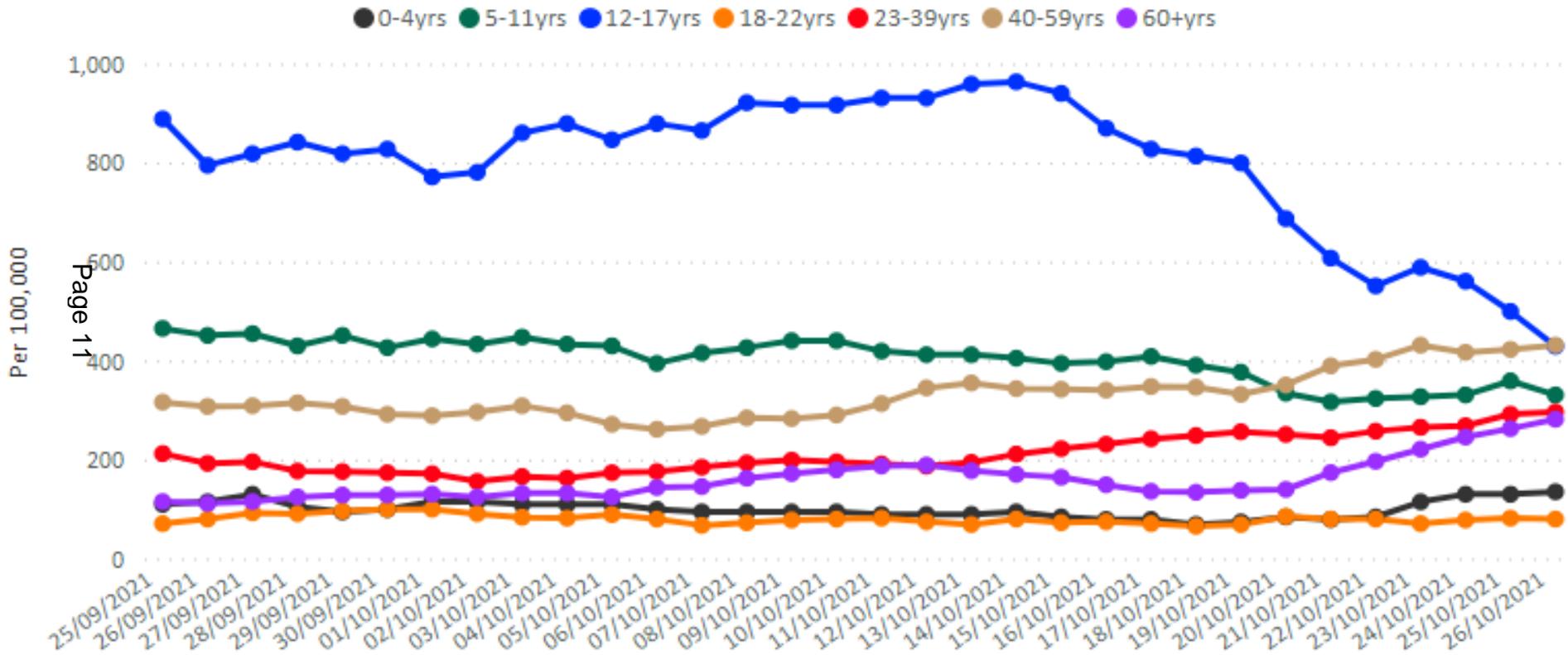
Nottingham City - 7 day rolling incidence rate (per 100,000 population)



Age breakdown of cases

- From mid-September to mid-October case rates were highest (although relatively stable) amongst secondary school aged children
- Rates in this age group have significantly reduced during the half term period, although this may be partially as a result of less testing
- During the same period we have seen steady increases in the adult population, and more recently a sharper increase in cases amongst those aged 60 years and over
- Rates remain lowest amongst those aged 18-22 years

Age-specific case rates per 100,000 people



This page is intentionally left blank

Local Covid-19 testing strategy

Page 13

Roz Howie, C-19 Programme Director and SRO for Testing – City and County

Engagement Board

28/09/2021

Minute Item 312



Nottingham
City Council

COVID-19 Testing in Nottingham City

Symptomatic
Testing (PCR)

Asymptomatic
Testing (Lateral
Flow)

Asymptomatic
Testing –
Vulnerable
settings

**Shared Nottingham City &
Nottinghamshire County Testing
function delivering:**

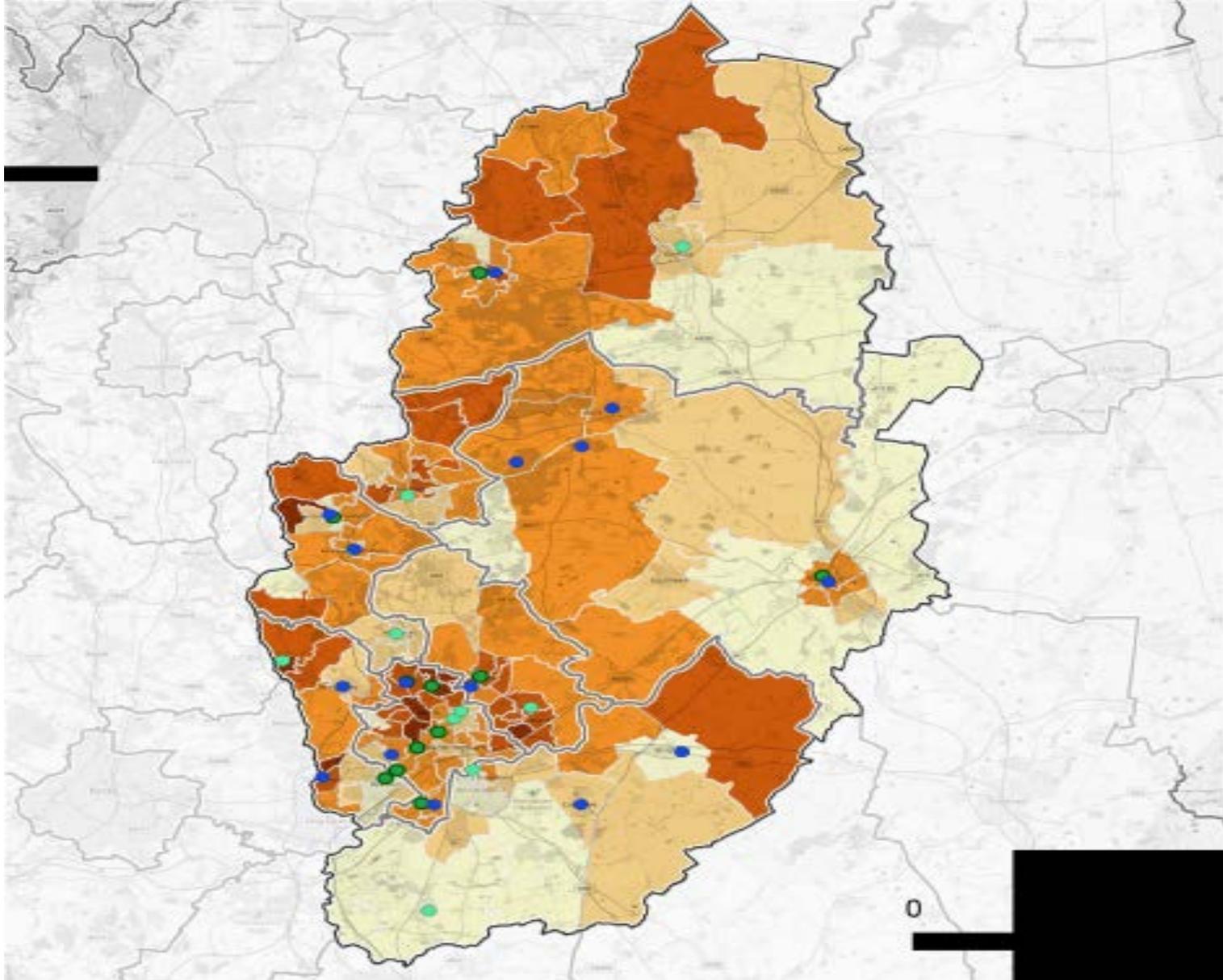
Outbreak
Testing

Community
Collect

Events Testing



1) Symptomatic/PCR Testing



1) Symptomatic/PCR Testing

Type	City/County	Name	Postcode
MTU	City	Winchester Street	NG5 2BD
MTU	City	Spondon Street	NG5 2FR
LTS	City	Forest Park & Ride	NG7 6AQ
LTS	City	University Park Car Park	NG7 2QL
LTS	City	Duke Street Car Park	NG6 8EZ
LTS	City	Jubilee Campus Car Park	NG8 1BB
LTS	City	Southglade Leisure Centre Car Park	NG5 5GU
LTS	City	NTU Clifton Campus Car Park	NG11 8NS
MTU	County	Lambley Lane Car Park	
MTU	County	Piggins Croft (Hucknall)	NG15 7BT
MTU	County	County Hall	
MTU	County	Churchgate Car Park (Retford)	DN22 6PE
MTU	County	Ellis St. Car Park (Kirkby)	NG17 7AL
MTU	County	The Sun Inn (Broxtove, Eastwood)	NG16 3NT
MTU	County	Newark Academy	NG24 3AL
MTU	County	East Leake Parish Council	LE12 6PF
MTU	County	Grove Street Car Park	NG16 8BU
LTS	County	Druids Inn Car Park, Arnold	NG5 7DS
LTS	County	Albion Street Car Park, Beeston	NG9 2PA
LTS	County	Sutton Market North Car Park, Brook Street	NG17 1AL
LTS	County	Castle House Car Park	NG24 1BY
LTS	County	Central Avenue Car Park, Worksop	S80 1EW



3) Asymptomatic Testing – Autumn/Winter Plan

- Nationally lateral flow devices identify around 1 in 4 of all cases reported daily
- Regular asymptomatic testing will continue to help find cases & break chains of transmission
- Focus will be on those;
 - Who are not fully vaccinated,
 - In education
 - In higher-risk settings e.g. NHS, social care, prisons
- Local authority led community testing will continue to focus on disproportionately-impacted and other high-risk groups
- Government will continue to provide the public with access to free lateral flow tests in the coming months, as an important tool to support people to manage their own risk and the risk to others
- However the government have stated that universal free provision will end

Secondary school and college students are given tests to use at home twice weekly throughout term time and the holidays.

Education

Early years and primary school children do not need to be tested. (Staff are provided with tests to use twice a week).


Community Collect:
You can collect tests to use at home from 28 sites near where you live.


Events Testing –
Arena and Detonate

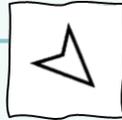

Community Testing:
You can visit community sites or a mobile unit to take a supervised test. Drop in, no booking required. Hyson Green, Trinity Sq, Bulwell Market, **Smithy Row & Winter Wonderland**

Private sector and charities registered with the national programme can order tests to either use in the workplace or for staff to collect and use at home.

Workplace


Pharmacy Collect:
You can collect tests to use at home from participating local pharmacies.
Changed 4th October QR code now required


Supported testing in 22 (1) vulnerable settings

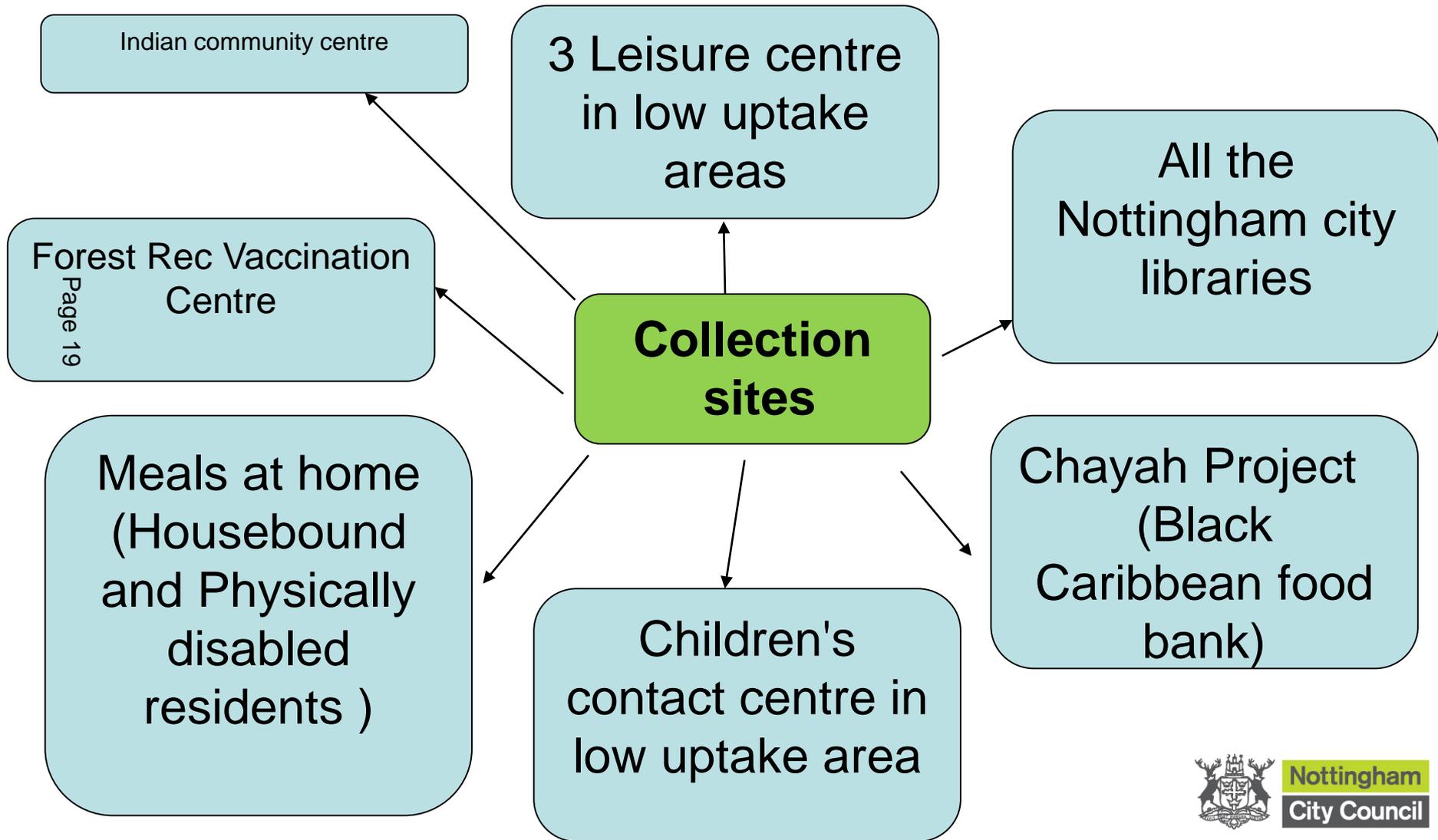

Test Direct:
If you can't otherwise access tests, you can order tests online or through 119, which will be delivered to your home.

Public Sector and other employers can ask County Council to support set up of supervised testing in the workplace or can direct staff to access tests through alternative available channels.

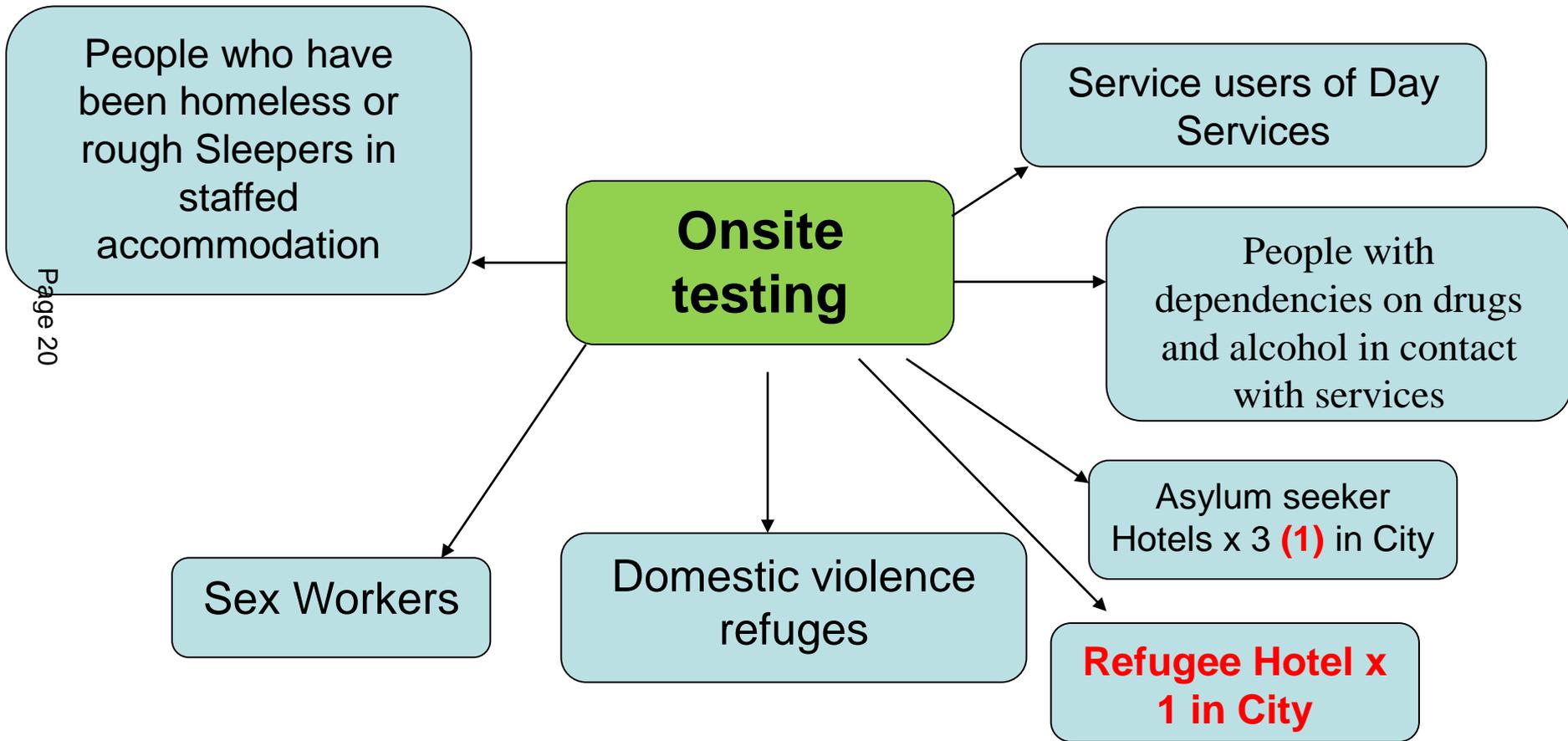
Lateral Flow Device Testing Channels



3) Disproportionately impacted groups (DIGs) & Under-represented groups (URGs)



3) Vulnerable and complex needs



Page 20



**Integrated
Care System**
Nottingham & Nottinghamshire

NHS Update

November 2021

Page 21

Minute Item 313



www.healthandcarenotts.co.uk



@NHSNottingham



Hospital Update

- We have seen 84 admissions in the seven days to 24 October, which compares to 80 in the previous 7-day period
- We had 169 beds occupied by Covid+ patients on 29 October, this compares to 143 beds on 19 October
- Of those 169 beds, 12% (21 beds) were mechanically ventilated and in the most critical condition
- In the week from 21-27 October there were 10 deaths, which compares to 16 the previous week

- ** These figures are for Nottingham University Hospitals, Sherwood Forest Hospitals, Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust and Bassetlaw Hospital



Vaccination Update - Adults

Age group	First dose	Second dose
18-29	59.7%	49.9%
30+	87.7%	82.4%



Vaccination Update – Young People

Page 24

- 12 to 15 year olds –
 - Vaccinated in 15 Nottingham City Schools
 - Bookable slots at Forest Recreation
- 16 to 17 year olds –
 - Bus at Colleges
 - Walk In sites including QMC, Forest Rec and local pharmacies
 - Uptake beginning of October 41%





Boosters

- Eligible

- people aged 50 and over
- people who live and work in care homes
- frontline health and social care workers
- people aged 16 and over with a health condition that puts them at high risk of getting seriously ill from COVID-19
- carers aged 16 and over
- people aged 16 and over who live with someone who is more likely to get infections (such as someone who has HIV, has had a transplant or is having certain treatments for cancer, lupus or rheumatoid arthritis)





Boosters



- Access

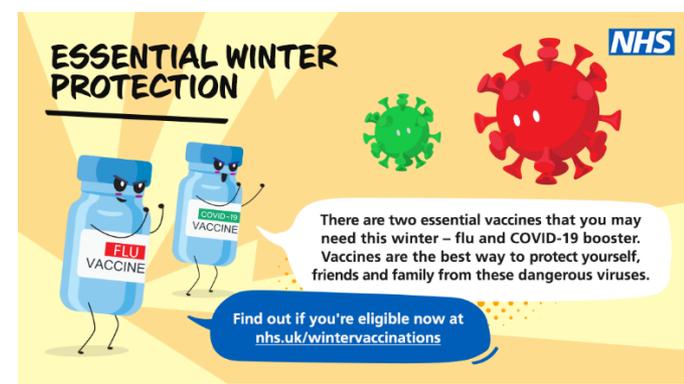
- Invitation from the NHS – local GP, pharmacy, vaccination centre
- Book on-line or by calling 119
- Walk-In – Forest Rec



Flu

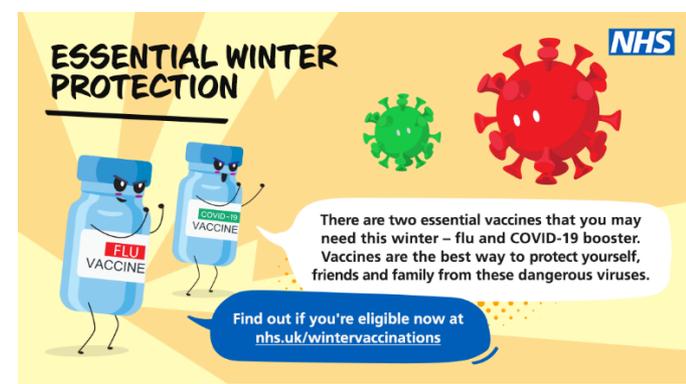
Flu Vaccination is important:

- more people are likely to get flu this winter as fewer people will have built up natural immunity to it during the COVID-19 pandemic
- if an individual gets flu and COVID-19 at the same time, research shows they are more likely to be seriously ill
- getting vaccinated against flu and COVID-19 will provide protection for the individual and those around them for both these serious illnesses





Flu



• Eligible

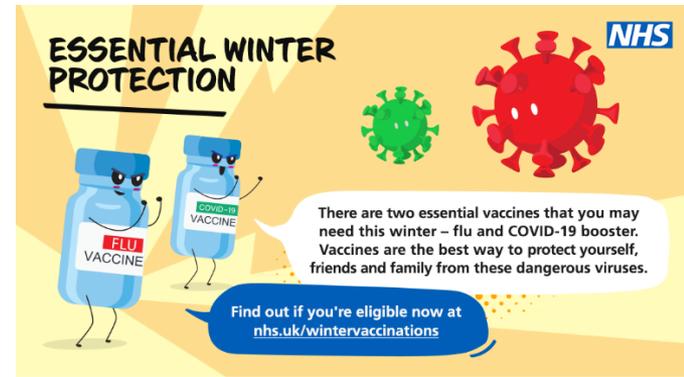
- are 50 and over (including those who'll be 50 by 31 March 2022)
- have certain health conditions
- are pregnant
- are in long-stay residential care
- receive a carer's allowance, or are the main carer for an older or disabled person who may be at risk if you get sick
- live with someone who is more likely to get infections (such as someone who has HIV, has had a transplant or is having certain treatments for cancer, lupus or rheumatoid arthritis)
- frontline health or social care workers



Flu

• Access

- GP surgeries
- Local pharmacies
- Hospital appointments



This page is intentionally left blank