



**CYFARFOD BWRDD PRIFYSGOL IECHYD
STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATIONAL DELIVERY COMMITTEE**

DYDDIAD Y CYFARFOD: DATE OF MEETING:	29 August 2024
TEITL YR ADRODDIAD: TITLE OF REPORT:	Winter Respiratory Vaccination Programme: Delivery Plan 2024/25
CYFARWYDDWR ARWEINIOL: LEAD DIRECTOR:	Dr Ardiana Gjini, Executive Director of Public Health
SWYDDOG ADRODD: REPORTING OFFICER:	Bethan Lewis, Interim Assistant Director of Public Health

Pwrpas yr Adroddiad (dewiswch fel yn addas) Purpose of the Report (select as appropriate)
Ar Gyfer Penderfyniad/For Decision

**ADRODDIAD SCAA
SBAR REPORT**

Sefyllfa / Situation

An updated Welsh Health Circular (WHC) was distributed to health boards on the 24 June 2024 setting out the National Influenza Immunisation Programme for 2024 to 2025 season. [Influenza vaccines and eligible cohorts for the 2024 to 2025 season \(WHC/2023/047\) | GOV.WALES](#). Planning assumptions developed through Vaccination Programme Wales Team and Welsh Government set out the priorities, ambitions and expectations of the COVID-19 Immunisation Programme for the 2024/25 Autumn period to facilitate health boards to plan whilst await final guidance. These guidance documents and assumptions were brought together in a collective WHC that was issued to all health boards on 2 August 2024 which clearly sets out the programme information and health boards are expected to develop plans for a coordinated and coherent programme for both vaccines. Wherever possible, delivery models should be aligned to allow for co-administration to maximise efficiencies and reduce vaccination inequity. [Winter respiratory vaccination programme 2024 to 2025 \(WHC/2024/033\) \(gov.wales\)](#).

This report will provide the Strategic Development and Operational Delivery Committee (SDODC) with the current position in terms of planning for the Hywel Dda University Health Board (HDdUHB) delivery of the winter respiratory vaccination programme as we build on the lessons learnt from previous programmes and ensuring we protect those at greatest risk from these respiratory viruses, reduce their circulation in our communities and support the resilience of the NHS and care system through the winter period.

SDODC is asked for a decision to **approve** the proposed delivery plan for the HDdUHB Winter Respiratory Vaccination Programme (Appendix 1), noting the work underway to mitigate the risk to programme delivery of proposed approach and receive assurance from the control measures in place through recognition of the key enablers.

Cefndir / Background

Respiratory viruses thrive in winter putting the health and care system under significant pressure every year. The impact of this is seen both in terms of staffing absence and in the volume of people who need to access services across primary and secondary care during the season. Vaccination remains the vital tool in helping to mitigate the effects of these respiratory viruses circulating in our communities, to protect our vulnerable population and to support the resilience of our health and social care systems during a time when pressure is at its greatest.

Transition of maximising alignment of the COVID-19 immunisation and seasonal Influenza immunisation programmes commenced in 2022/23. This enabled the Health Board to coordinate the planning of both programmes and where possible streamline delivery by co-administration. Our hybrid approach to delivery since 2022/23 supported our population to maximise their opportunity to access both vaccines closer to home.

Uptake in 2023/24 programme saw a reduction across both Covid and flu immunisation programmes for all eligible groups, other than care home residents. All delivery teams identified challenges in uptake levels with considerable hesitancy in acceptance of both vaccines. The focus for learning from last years programme will be to ensure we improve on the uptakes seen last year as per tables below by maximising opportunities for access and acceptability.

Influenza Immunisation Uptake 2023/24

Eligible Group	Denominator	HDdUHB	All Wales
65 years and over	101,461	69.2	72.5
6mth to 64 years at risk	56,067	35.9	39.1
Children aged 2 & 3 years	6,719	35.8	42.8
Primary school children aged 4-10 yrs	27,221	71.6	61.9
High school children aged 11-15 yrs	21,283	61.8	49.7
Healthcare Staff			
Total NHS Staff	11,724	25.6	25.8
NHS Staff with direct patient contact	7,979	25.0	25.0

Covid Immunisation Uptake 2023/24

Eligible Group	Denominator	HDdUHB	All Wales
Severely Immunosuppressed	11,558	54.1	60.4
Care Home Resident	2,198	82.3	83.4
Care Home Workers	3,253	24.2	22.6
80 years and over	24,861	69.0	77.4
Healthcare Workers	17,473	29.3	35.0
Social Care Workers	7,375	24.1	30.5
75-79 years old	21,080	67.7	76.6
70-74 years old	22,482	63.6	74.0
65-69 years old	22,457	53.5	64.7
P6 other moderate risk	35,068	24.2	35.5
P6.1 vulnerable based on risk	4,598	25.9	31.8
TOTAL OVERALL	172,433	48.2	55.3

Asesiad / Assessment

Planning Assumptions

The eligible cohorts for receipt of Flu and COVID-19 vaccines for the winter respiratory vaccination programme have been identified in each programme outline.

Flu eligibility for 2024-25 can be summarised, as outlined in WHC (2023) 047 as follows:

- children aged two and three years on 31 August 2024
- school aged children from reception to year 11 (inclusive)
- people aged 6 months to 64 years in a clinical risk group
- people aged 65 years and older (age on 31 March 2025)
- all adult residents in Welsh prisons
- pregnant women
- carers of a person whose health or welfare may be at risk if the carer falls ill
- frontline health and care workers
- people experiencing homelessness
- household contacts of the immunocompromised

COVID-19 eligibility, as outlined in WHC (2024) 033, is recommended as a single dose vaccine be offered to:

- Residents in a care home for older adults
- All adults aged 65 years and over (age on 31 March 2025)
- Persons aged 6 months to 64 years in a clinical risk group, as defined in tables 3 and 4 of the COVID-19 chapter of the Green Book
- people experiencing homelessness
- all adult residents in Welsh prisons
- pregnant women

However, the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has not recommended the inclusion of the following groups:

- Frontline Health and Social Care workers
- Unpaid Carers
- Household contacts of the immunosuppressed

The JCVI has advised that on the balance of evidence it does not believe there is a clinical benefit to offering the vaccine to these groups. Nevertheless, owing to the late communication of this advice, Welsh Government has adopted a permissive approach in relation to these groups. No proactive offer will be made to these groups but communication will outline that COVID-19 vaccine is available if they wish to receive this year.

Vaccine Type

Flu vaccine availability is identified within the WHC (2023) 047 and detailed in table below and have been predominantly used over the last few years in our seasonal programmes. QIV-HD was not previously available in the UK market but it now is licensed for use this year and aQIV may be offered 'off-label' to those who become 65 years of age before the 31 March 2025:

Those aged 65 years and over	Those aged 18 to less than 65 years (including pregnant women)	Children aged 2 to less than 18 years who are contraindicated / decline LAIV	Children aged 6 months - 2 years in risk groups
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • aQIV • QIV-HD • (QIVc where aQIV/QIV-HD is not available) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QIVc • QIV-HD (those aged 60 years and over only) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QIVc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QIVc

Key:

aQIV - adjuvanted quadrivalent influenza vaccine

QIVc - quadrivalent cell culture influenza vaccine

QIVr - quadrivalent recombinant influenza vaccine

QIV-HD – high dose quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine

COVID-19 vaccines continue to be both Comirnaty and Spikevax as the two main vaccines in the autumn booster programme. Both have been routinely used across our HB Vaccination Centres and Primary Care contractors throughout the duration of the COVID-19 vaccination programmes.

A new variant vaccine identified as JN1 has been approved for use over this winter programme. This vaccine will be available to commence the winter respiratory vaccination programme this autumn from 1 October 2024.

Delivery schedule has been confirmed and work is underway to facilitate a direct ordering system into our Primary Care sites supporting delivery. Delivery of Flu vaccines are likely to be in place prior to arrival of the COVID-19 vaccines, however, there is no delays expected with delivery to affect the programme commencing from the 1st October 2024.

Live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) in the form of a nasal spray will be available to order for all HB sites and Primary Care contractors from the 4th September 2024 with delivery into sites expected week commencing 9th September 2024.

Proposed Delivery Plan

In summary, the vaccination for the eligible groups will be delivered by a variety of health care professionals in order to maximise vaccine uptake. However, we have detailed below some primary delivery models for information:

HB School Nursing Service (supported by HB Health Protection & Immunisation Service)

- Children in primary school from reception class to Year 6 (inclusive) – Flu only
- Children in secondary school Year 7 to Year 11 (inclusive) – Flu only

HB Health Protection & Immunisation Service

- 2 and 3 year old children in nursery schools (venues being scoped against low uptake areas, as a mop-up delivery) – Flu only
- Care Home residents, including people with a learning disability – Flu & COVID-19
- Eligible population and at risk group who are an inpatient – Flu & COVID-19
- Pregnant Women – Flu & COVID-19 (aligned to Antenatal clinics)

- Eligible population and at risk group who are housebound – Flu & COVID-19
- Homeless population – Flu & COVID-19
- Any eligible population of a GP Practice not opted to deliver – COVID-19 only

GP and Community Pharmacies

- Children aged two or three years on 31 August 2023 – Flu only
- People aged 65 years and older (age on 31 March 2024) – Flu & COVID-19
- People aged between six months and 64 years in clinical risk groups – Flu & COVID-19
- Carers – Flu & by request COVID-19
- Household contacts of immunocompromised – Flu & by request COVID-19
- Frontline health and care workers – Flu & by request COVID-19

HB Occupational Health Team (supported by HB Health Protection & Immunisation Service)

- Healthcare workers (including healthcare students) – Flu & offer if requested COVID-19

It should be noted that the HB's Health Protection and Immunisation Service will also be able to provide support to GP and Community Pharmacies where needed, or where Flu vaccine stocks are insufficient to complete vaccination of the target population.

In summary, the HB will:

- Progress the continued support for GP Practices, Community Pharmacies and additional resources to ensure the priority groups, as directed by the JCVI, receive their Flu vaccine and COVID-19 Booster.
- Continue to prioritise increased uptake among children in order to reduce transmission of Influenza in the community and therefore offer indirect protection to older adults and other vulnerable groups.
- Continue to work with team leads and peer vaccinators to identify and train additional champions across Hywel Dda, promoting online 'Flu-2' training to minimise face-to-face training needs. To reflect the potential extension of the role of Peer Vaccinators to include other vaccines, e.g. COVID-19 or signposting to book their vaccination.
- Request ongoing Executive-level enhanced support for staff Flu vaccinations, including letters from Directors of Nursing, Quality & Patient Experience, Public Health, Allied Health Professionals and Health Science and the Medical Director to encourage staff vaccination and support of the peer vaccinator model.
- Investigate the recording of Flu vaccines administered to pregnant women and work with Public Health Wales (PHW), Primary Care and Midwifery colleagues to try to ensure accurate data collection and to improve working relationships across antenatal settings to vaccinate pregnant women where possible.
- Ensuring that both its school nursing team and its health protection and immunisation service are able to administer the children's nasal Flu vaccine, to ensure maximum flexibility and resilience in the system. The delivery of this workstream is going to replicate last years delivery within nursery classes in primary schools in Llanelli and Pembroke Dock to continue improvement in historically low uptake areas for this age group.

Whilst there are clear discrete pieces of work and methods for increasing Flu and COVID-19 vaccine uptake in each eligible group outlined, the forthcoming winter respiratory vaccination programme delivery plan needs to be set within the context of delivering a well-recognised annual population-level health protection intervention. On this basis, it is more important than ever that there are effective plans in place for the 2024-25 autumn / winter season, not only to improve

overall respiratory health in the population of Hywel Dda but also to protect those at risk, prevent ill-health and minimise further impact on NHS and social care services.

Contracting Mechanism

Contracting arrangements remained unchanged from previous winter programme and the more recent Spring Booster as previously shared with Primary Care contractors.

GP practices and Community Pharmacies are being invited to participate in the autumn booster programme based on the planning assumptions and the proposed delivery plan above. To date there are 41 GP Practices with an expression of interest to deliver COVID-19 programme and out of the remaining 7 practices only 2 have declared they do not wish to participate. This year sees the highest number of Community Pharmacies express an interest to deliver COVID-19 vaccines with 17 registering their interest.

Ambitions and Expectations

The ambitions of the winter respiratory vaccination programme are to deliver at least 75% uptake in both eligible Flu and COVID-19 cohorts. It is also noted that alongside this uptake target there is an ambition to reduce the difference in uptake between the most deprived and least deprived in our communities. Where challenges have previously been encountered in reaching 75% uptake it is expected that this campaign will demonstrate incremental increase in uptake in these areas.

The expectations for delivery are set out in the tables below:

Flu Eligible Group	2023/24 Uptake	2024/25 ambition
65 years and over	69.2%	75%
6 months to 64 years at risk	35.9%	75%
2-3 year olds	35.8%	75%
Primary School Children age 4-10 yrs	71.6%	75%
Secondary School Children age 11-15 yrs	61.8%	75%
Healthcare Staff	25.6%	75%

Covid-19 Eligible Group	2023/24 Uptake	2024/25 ambition
65 years and over	63.5%	75%
Care Home residents	82.3%	To maintain >80%
6 months to 64 years at risk	34.7%	75%

Risks and Mitigation

There are a number of risks identified based on the learning from the previous programme delivery plan for the winter respiratory programme, which resulted in lower uptake for both Flu and COVID-19 immunisation across our communities, and are detailed below:

- Prioritisation of higher risk groups not achieved to realise ambition and gain maximum protection in community;
- Dependant on the vaccine supply and early prioritisation there was an impact on the fluidity of programme delivery;
- Staffing deficit due to sickness impacted across all delivery programmes and required agility in teams to support needs at short notice;
- Potential risk that patients chose one or other vaccine and did not attend for both, limiting the effectiveness of community immunity to one or both viruses;
- Patient communication, around appointments/venues etc leading to challenging messaging with population.
- Increased levels of vaccine waste experienced.

A number of key enablers have been identified to mitigate the risks and facilitate the operational success of the proposed plans for the winter respiratory delivery plan. These are detailed as:

- Engagement with GMS and Pharmacy contractors to scope winter respiratory vaccination plan and potential delivery within timescales;
- Agreement with the Local Medical Council (LMC) on the model with 2-3 year old approach to targeting ongoing offer in Nursery class in schools;
- Flexible approach to support continued delivery through Primary Care with HB health protection and immunisation service staff outreaching;
- Structured comms to support the transition into a primary care focused approach in line with National comms and provide clear messaging around each individual component of the overall plan to maximise uptake;
- HB health protection and immunisation service to support all care home residents and housebound patient for every Primary Care contractor to avoid confusion and ensure timely response with offer of co-administering vaccines to maximise delivery;
- Additional pop up venues will be secured within local areas to any GP Practice not delivering COVID-19 immunisation programme and maximise an equitable offer of co-administration;
- Close monitoring of vaccine stock levels against ordering to ensure documentation of stock held and used up to date on weekly basis across all sites.

Current Actions and Next Steps

Discussion with Primary Care contractors across GP practices and Community Pharmacies are underway. Need to move rapidly to signed commissioning agreements and detailed local delivery plans.

This initial scoping is being shared nationally with Pharmacy Leads to ensure we have early set up of contractor ordering systems for COVID-19 vaccines.

Review of denominator numbers will be monitored, and any updating will be built into the planning parameters for the winter respiratory vaccination programme required to ensure achievement of programme ambitions as per WHC. DHCW updated planned for late August 2024.

Communication plan currently underway with clear and concise messages prepared for our 2-3 year old and school aged flu programmes in addition to reaching our pregnant women and population groups. This communication will be underpinned by the support of the Communication Hub.

All monitoring and governance of actions and delivery will be managed through the existing Respiratory Immunisation Delivery Group and reported to the Immunisation Oversight Group.

Workforce review of current HB teams has commenced taking into account the workforce and support teams required to facilitate this years winter respiratory vaccination programme, providing support to school aged children flu campaign, facilitating pilots for nursery children to receive flu and ensuring in reach into HB sites to support peer vaccinators and Occupational Health Team offering COVID-19 vaccines, where requested, alongside the flu offer.

Argymhelliad / Recommendation

SDODC is asked for a decision to **approve** the proposed delivery plan for the HDdUHB Winter Respiratory Vaccination Programme, noting the work underway to mitigate the risk to programme delivery of proposed approach and receive assurance from the control measures in place through recognition of the key enablers.

Amcanion: (rhaid cwblhau) Objectives: (must be completed)	
Committee ToR Reference: Cyfeirnod Cylch Gorchwyl y Pwyllgor:	2.5 Provide support to the Board in its role of scrutinising performance and assurance on overall performance and delivery against Health Board plans and objectives, including delivery of key targets, giving early warning on potential performance issues and making recommendations for action to continuously improve the performance of the organisation and, as required, focus in detail on specific issues where performance is showing deterioration or there are issues of concern
Cyfeirnod Cofrestr Risg Datix a Sgôr Cyfredol: Datix Risk Register Reference and Score:	Risk 1773 – risk score 9.
Parthau Ansawdd: Domains of Quality Quality and Engagement Act (sharepoint.com)	7. All apply
Galluogwyr Ansawdd: Enablers of Quality: Quality and Engagement Act (sharepoint.com)	6. All Apply
Amcanion Strategol y BIP: UHB Strategic Objectives:	4. The best health and wellbeing for our individuals, families and communities
Amcanion Cynllunio Planning Objectives	10 Population health

Amcanion Llesiant BIP: UHB Well-being Objectives: Hyperlink to HDdUHB Well-being Objectives Annual Report 2021-2022	4. Improve Population Health through prevention and early intervention, supporting people to live happy and healthy lives
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Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol: Further Information:	
Ar sail tystiolaeth: Evidence Base:	Influenza vaccines and eligible cohorts for the 2024 to 2025 season (WHC/2023/047) GOV.WALES. Winter respiratory vaccination programme 2024 to 2025 (WHC/2024/033) (gov.wales). Public Health Wales: Influenza & COVID-19 vaccination data.
Rhestr Termau: Glossary of Terms:	Contained within body of report.
Partion / Pwyllgorau â ymgynhorwyd ymlaen llaw y Pwyllgor Datblygu Strategol a Chyflenwi Gweithredol: Parties / Committees consulted prior to Strategic Development and Operational Delivery Committee:	Public Health Directorate Senior Leadership Team Meeting. Respiratory Immunisation Delivery Group. Operational Planning, Governance & Performance Group.

Effaith: (rhaid cwblhau) Impact: (must be completed)	
Ariannol / Gwerth am Arian: Financial / Service:	Service model delivery of all immunisation programmes will consider any financial constraints from existing budgetary allocations
Ansawdd / Gofal Claf: Quality / Patient Care:	It is important that there are effective plans in place for the 2024/25 Winter Respiratory Vaccination Programme, not only to improve overall respiratory health in the population of Hywel Dda but also to protect those at risk, prevent ill-health and minimise further impact on health and social care services.
Gweithlu: Workforce:	As for Quality / Patient Care impact.
Risg: Risk:	Risks are detailed in the report. Areas where uptake levels are lower than target will be reflected within directorate risk register.
Cyfreithiol: Legal:	Not applicable.
Enw Da: Reputational:	Approaches already undertaken in the area to encourage vaccination uptake and target interventions at groups and communities to address health inequities and inequalities. Communication team supporting the immunisation

Gyfrinachedd: Privacy:	Not applicable.
Cydraddoldeb: Equality:	Approaches already undertaken in the area to encourage vaccination uptake and target interventions at groups and communities to address health inequities and inequalities. Strategy designed to reduce inequities further.



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Rhaglen Frechu Cymru
Vaccination Programme Wales

Winter Respiratory Vaccination Programme 24/25

Hywel Dda University Health Board

Version	0.4 - draft
Date	16/08/2024
Author, Title	Glenna Jones, Head of Nursing Health Protection & Public Health Nursing
Approver, Title	Bethan Lewis, Interim Assistant Director Public Health

BACKGROUND

Covid-19

Coronavirus (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Since December 2019, over 760 million cases and 6.9 million deaths have been recorded worldwide but the actual number is thought to be higher.

Most people infected with the virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. However, some will become seriously ill and require medical attention. Older people and those with underlying medical conditions like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, or cancer are more likely to develop serious illness (WHO, 2023).

The pandemic response vaccination programme officially commenced on 1st April 2020, and since, there have been yearly recommendations from the JCVI as to who is recommended to be eligible for a Spring or Winter booster vaccination.

We are currently awaiting a formal announcement from JCVI and Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary as to whether there will be a Winter COVID-19 booster made available in Wales. While we do not yet have this announcement, the system is preparing for a possible winter programme with System Board approved planning assumptions.

Co-vaccination has been suggested to be the most effective delivery model and advice outlines that from 1st October 2024, eligible individuals should be offered both a COVID-19 and influenza vaccination, where possible.

Flu

Like COVID-19, Flu is caused by a virus, and can lead to serious illness. Flu is very infectious, and symptoms can come on very quickly. Symptoms of flu include a high temperature, tiredness and weakness, headache, aches and pains and a cough. (PHW, 2023)

The routine Flu vaccination programme in Wales is generally delivered through primary care services, however, with the development of health protection teams within Local Health boards, delivery has been supplemented by Local Health Board vaccinators.

The [Welsh Health Circular](#) published by Welsh Government outlines those eligible for a Flu vaccination throughout the 24/25 Winter programme.

PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS AND NATIONAL ENABLING ACTIONS

COVID-19

Overarching Deployment Scenario

- Main Campaign window: Early October 2024 – Mid December 2024
- Ambition: Deliver at least 75% uptake in eligible COVID-19 cohort (increase on previous year) alongside a reduction in the difference in uptake between the most and least deprived
- Eligibility: immunosuppressed individuals 6mths and over, residents in a care home for older adult and care home staff, individuals in a high- risk category (6mths+), adults aged 65 years + and health & social care workers.

Vaccine Clinical Advisory

- Interval between doses: 6 months after last dose although operational flexibility around timing (min dose interval of 3 months)
- PDGs and National Protocols will be available to Health Board

Vaccination Equity

- Equality and Health Impact Assessment to be undertaken and resulting actions delivered as part of the planning process

Supply and Logistics

Covid vaccines ADULT (New Variant)

- Comirnaty 30 – 6 dose vial (60 dose pack). For use in ages 12+ (Operationally 12-17 years)
- Spikevax Adult – 5 dose vial (50 dose pack). For use in Primary Care settings and Health Board settings. Ages 18+
- Novavax non-mRNA – TBC

Covid vaccines PAEDIATRIC and INFANT (New Variant)

- Comirnaty 3 – **3 dose vial (30 dose pack)** For use in ages 6months – 4years.
- Comirnaty 10 – **Single Dose Vial.** For use in ages 5-12 years.
- No change in consumables.

Winter 2024/25 Campaign- Spikevax will be the primary vaccine in use in Wales.

Data and Epi

- WIS letters start to be issued from Early September, WIS able to receipt vaccine by Late August, GP write back to be ready from Early September.
- First surveillance report to be published October, with equity surveillance report to be regularly published
- Power BI dashboard will be available to assist operational delivery

Workforce and Training

- National enablers to LHB training will be reviewed and updated as required (date to follow)

Comms & Engagement

- Communication strategy to be developed through the VPW Comms & Engagement Group and approved by System Board in July 2024
- Public Information leaflets will be developed and be available for LHB use.

INFLUENZA

Overarching Deployment Scenario

- Campaign window: 2- & 3-year-olds, School campaign, Pregnancy: start early September 2024, Main Adult Programme: Early October 2024 and offered vaccination by early December 2024.

- Where a Primary Care contractor does not have confidence that it will be possible to vaccinate their entire eligible adult cohort between October and early December, they should inform their health board. In this event, the health board can agree for vaccination to begin in September, rather than risk failing to complete the programme.
- Ambition: Adults, Health care workers and clinically vulnerable children: Deliver at least 75% uptake in eligible cohort alongside a reduction in the difference in uptake between the most and least deprived. 2- & 3-year-olds and school Campaign: to demonstrate incremental increase in uptake
- Eligibility: children aged two and three years on 31 August 2024, school aged children from reception to year 11 (inclusive), people aged 6 months to 64 years in a clinical risk group, people aged 65 years and older (age on 31 March 2025), all adult residents in Welsh prisons, pregnant women, carers of a person whose health or welfare may be at risk if the carer falls ill, frontline health and care workers, people experiencing homelessness, household contacts of the immunocompromised

Vaccine Clinical Advisory

- Green book expected to be available mid - July
- PGDs and National Protocols will be available for Health Board use

Vaccination Equity

- Equality and Health Impact Assessment to be undertaken and resulting actions delivered as part of the planning process

Supply and Logistics

- Delivery of aQIV and QIVc Early September
- Delivery of QIV-HD to be confirmed by Sanofi
- Delivery of LAIV to be confirmed
- Vaccines:

Those aged 65 years and over	Those aged 18 to less than 65 years (including pregnant women)	Children aged 2 to less than 18 years who are contraindicated/ decline LAIV	Children aged 6 months – 2 years in risk groups
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • aQIV¹ • QIV- HD² • (QIVc where aQIV/QIV-HD is not available³) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QIVc • QIV HD (those aged 60 years and over only) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QIVc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QIVc

1 aQIV may be offered ‘off-label’ to those who become 65 years of age before 31 March 2025.

2 QIV-HD was not previously available for the UK market but its manufacturers have confirmed

Data and Epi

- First surveillance report to be published two weeks after the start of the campaign
- Equity surveillance report to be regularly published

Workforce and Training

- National enablers will be reviewed and updated as required

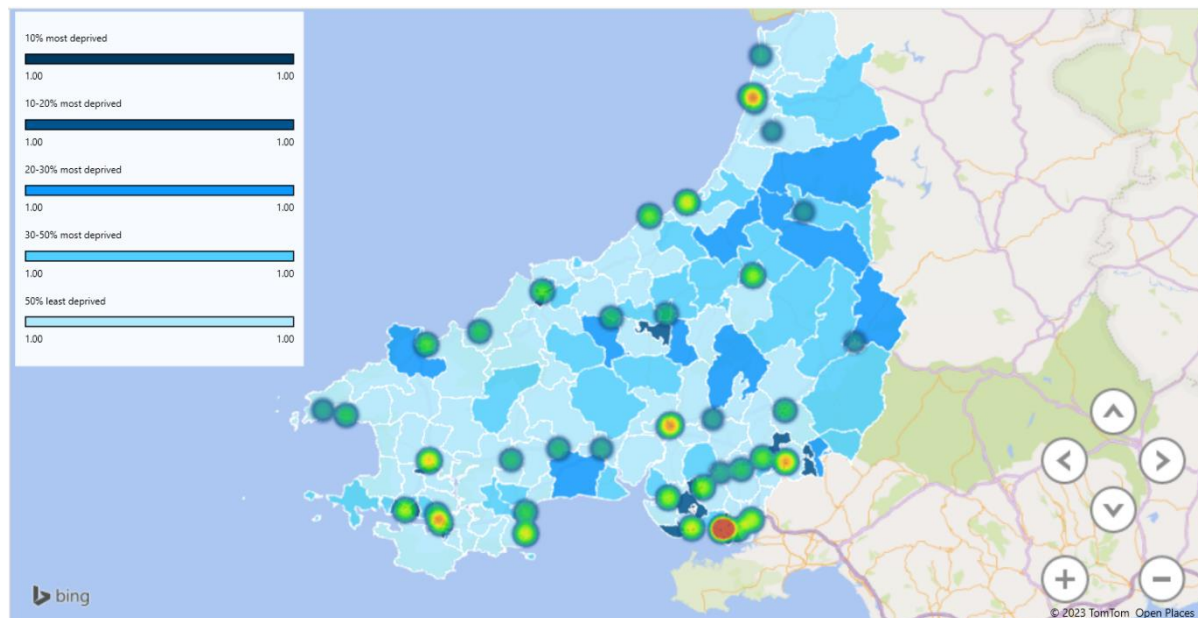
Comms & Engagement

- Communication strategy to be developed through the VPW Comms & Engagement Group and approved by System Board in July 2024
- Public Information leaflets will be developed and be available to LHB use

LOCAL CONTEXT

Hywel Dda University Health Board (the Health Board) serves a population of 382,700 and covers 5,780 km² of rural West Wales. This represents 12% of the total population of Wales, living in 28% of the geographical area of the country. Almost half the population live in Carmarthenshire (49.1% n = 189,117), 32.3% (n = 124,367) live in Pembrokeshire and 18.6% (n = 71,610) live in Ceredigion. We are a diverse population, with Pembrokeshire housing the highest percentage of people identifying as Gypsy/Roma travellers and the 2nd highest proportion of armed forces veterans in Wales. Over 15% of our population have no car or van in their household and our population is ageing, with our over 65 yr-olds population increasing faster than our under 15 yr-olds. The age structure of the population is similar across all three counties. 25.5% (N=98,106) were over the age of 65 years. See table below for a summary by age cohort for each county.

The Health Board contains 229 LSOAs (12% of the 1909 total LSOAs in Wales). Ten LSOAs in the Health Board are in the most derived 10% of WIMD. This represents 4.4% of all LSOAs for the Health Board area. The table below provides an overview of those communities in the most deprived areas in rank order. The heat map below aligns GP surgeries to areas of deprivation.



The Winter Respiratory Immunisation programme for the Health Board will commence for 2 – 3 year old children as soon as influenza vaccines are available from 1st September, followed shortly after by the Primary and Secondary School influenza programme, and subsequently the remainder of the programme delivery of Influenza and Covid-19 programme towards the end of September/ Beginning of October 2024. We will plan to deliver our programmes according to our hybrid plan with vaccines being offered by Primary Care contractors across General Practice and Community

Pharmacies, school nursing teams and the Health Board's immunisation team. All offers will be made to our eligible populations by end of the first week in December. Following this time frame a mop up campaign will be introduced, for both Flu and Covid-19 vaccines across January to March 2024, delivered by the Health Board Health Protection and Immunisation teams, extending letters of invitation to any unvaccinated members of the public. Our Health Board teams will be deployed to support those areas with lowest uptakes, and we will continue to offer drop in vaccination opportunities across our vaccination centres, and pop up venues in the community.

Uptake in 2023/24 programme saw a reduction across both Covid and flu immunisation programmes for all eligible groups, other than care home residents. All delivery teams identified challenges in uptake levels with considerable hesitancy in having both vaccines. The focus for learning from last years programme will be to ensure we improve on the uptakes seen last year as per tables below.

Influenza Immunisation Uptake 2023/24

Eligible Group	Denominator	HDdUHB	All Wales
65 years and over	101,461	69.2	72.5
6mth to 64 years at risk	56,067	35.9	39.1
Children aged 2 & 3 years	6,719	35.8	42.8
Primary school children aged 4-10 yrs	27,221	71.6	61.9
High school children aged 11-15 yrs	21,283	61.8	49.7
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Total NHS Staff	11,724	25.6	25.8
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Covid Immunisation Uptake 2023/24

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Severely Immunosuppressed	11,558	54.1	60.4
Care Home Resident	2,198	82.3	83.4
Care Home Workers	3,253	24.2	22.6
80 years and over	24,861	69.0	77.4
Healthcare Workers	17,473	29.3	35.0
Social Care Workers	7,375	24.1	30.5
75-79 years old	21,080	67.7	76.6
70-74 years old	22,482	63.6	74.0
65-69 years old	22,457	53.5	64.7
P6 other moderate risk	35,068	24.2	35.5
P6.1 vulnerable based on risk	4,598	25.9	31.8
TOTAL OVERALL	172,433	48.2	55.3

First Draft Health board vaccination plan – DEADLINE 16TH JULY 2024

Final plan submissions – DEADLINE 9TH AUGUST 2024.

Executive Director Lead

Dr Ardiana Gjini, Executive Director of Public Health

Supporting Director

Jill Patterson, Director of Primary Care, Community and Long Term Care

Governance Arrangements

- Immunisation Oversight Group will monitor uptake levels and progress against planned delivery.
- Respiratory Immunisation Delivery Group will operationalise delivery plan, ensuring on track and adjustment made to any key challenges in delivery.
- Monthly monitoring of data by Senior Nurse Immunisations / Senior Public Health Practitioner with reporting.
- Monitoring and reporting of Delivery Plan compliance held through Health Protection Coordination & Oversight Group.
- Escalation to Executive Director lead as required.

Narrative Overarching Service Approach

Autumn/winter respiratory campaign.

2-3 yr olds Flu- September 2024 - December 2024

- Primary care focused delivery to commence 1st September 2024 with a focused concentrated delivery for the month.
- Support from Health Protection & immunisation team available to maintain momentum and following focused Primary Care delivery will review mop up opportunities through local pop up and nursery approach.
- Develop a 3 counties nursery as a mop-up delivery model, to include all nurseries visited in last year pilot in low uptake areas and to explore wider nursery reach and need following focused Primary Care September delivery.

Health Board School Nurses/ Health Protection & and Immunisation Teams

- Develop and deliver local plans in partnership with Primary and Secondary Schools to vaccinate children in school settings, including mop-up sessions where appropriate.
- Manage collection and collation of parent / carer consents (no E-consent solution available for this year).
- Undertake recall of parents to maximise consent and uptake to maximise delivery when visiting schools.
- Comms will be shared on weekly basis through social media channels and with schools to remind parents when teams are at schools with vaccine.
- School Programme will commence with consents starting once children back in school in first week and delivery programme will commence week commencing 16 September 2024.

Eligible Cohorts for flu and Covid, October 2024 - End November 2024

- Primary care focused delivery
- GPs to provide flu and covid vaccinations to all eligible population groups at same time if eligible (with the exception of care home resident – see note below)

- Any GP opted out of delivering Covid vaccines their eligible populations will be supported by HB team through local pop up venues or through supporting GP practice with delivery through their practice.
- Social care staff and Care Home staff are offered flu vaccine through primary care contractors as per service level agreement.
- Community Pharmacies to provide booster covid vaccinations to social care staff groups at same time they provide flu vaccine as well as supporting all other eligible groups.
- Vaccination team in HB to provide flu and covid vaccinations to care home residents and housebound patients to ensure prompt delivery at beginning of programme.
- Vaccination team in HB to offer flu vaccinations to HB healthcare staff through a combined approach supporting existing peer vaccinator approach with occupational health teams and through use of vaccination venues, roaming models into healthcare settings and pop up venues. Any staff requesting Covid vaccine this autumn will be supported at same venues as per guidance.

December 2024 - March 2025

- Health Board immunisation team will scan WIS and covid data, and all eligible unvaccinated patients identified will be invited by letter to a community-based vaccination pop up centre and offered a covid and flu vaccination (if not already received).
- Pop up venues will be organised as close to their GP Practice as is reasonably feasible, minimising travel distance for patients.

Activity Schedule

Please complete the activity schedules for delivery of both Covid-19 and Flu vaccinations throughout the Winter Respiratory 24/25 programme.

COVID-19



COVID- 19 Capacity
Plan

FLU



FLU Capacity Plan

Supply and Logistics

VACCINE DELIVERY SITES



master order
template & delivery

Action Plans

Actions To Implement Vaccination

Subject Matter Area	Action	Due Date	Lead	Update
Clinical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green Book, FAQs and PGD updates to be shared with all teams supporting Shingles delivery. 	31 August 2024	Senior Nurse Immunisation	
Supply and Logistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all Primary Care Practices and pharmacies have sufficient stock to deliver opportunistic and planned vaccinations. Orders will be placed to ask.hdd@wales.nhs.uk to coincide with planned clinic dates (2 week lead up time) Daily stock checks completed by GP practices and pharmacies All vaccines inputted on to WIS 7 days from administration Microsoft form to be designed for ordering requests. Review data on vaccine stock levels and report any inactivity. 	30 November 2024	Senior Nurse Immunisation; GMC Lead Primary Care Public health cell, supervisor	Meeting held with VPW team to explore alternative approach to ordering to reduce waste seen in previous programmes. Process agreed and to be finalised.
Workforce and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure Primary Care teams are provided with timely training materials and up to date with immunisation training for the programme. Training of wider health protection immunisation registered nursing staff to maximise opportunities to support additional delivery. Explore additional training and competency sign off alongside Primary Care nursing team throughout immunisation campaigns. 	31 August 2024	Senior Nurse Immunisation.	

Communication and Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prompt dissemination of PHW comms via social media platform Ensure robust rolling plan for comms and engagement opportunities available throughout programme, linking with LA to increase promotion of immunisation need across local forums 	30 November 2024	Head of Nursing HP & PH nursing; Senior Comms Officer	
Digital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all vaccinations administered are recorded on relevant WIS & GP system at time of delivery 	30 November 2024	GMC Lead Primary Care.	
Data and Epidemiology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure key leads in HB data analyst provide support for clinical teams to interpret data from PHW to allow for data validation Develop recording system through dashboard to capture outcome of data validation and offers made, capturing refusals to ensure clarity of data held. 	30 November 2024	Data Analyst; GMC Lead Primary Care; Senior Public Health Practitioner	
Vaccine Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target low uptake areas prioritising those with greatest deficit first. Link with Community Development Outreach Team (CDOT) and access hard to serve communities. Ensure staff aware of importance to capture reason for refusal of parents to inform future planning approach for Hywel Dda to improve overall uptakes. 	30 November 2024	Senior Nurse Immunisation.	
Other Areas (please specify)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 			
				Data reviewed: 09/08/2024

Risk Review

Please complete.

		Likelihood				
		1	2	3	4	5
Impact	1	1	2	3	4	5
	2	2	4	6	8	10
	3	3	6	9	12	15
	4	4	8	12	16	20
	5	5	10	15	20	25

Risk Description	Risk Impact (a)	Risk Likelihood (b)	Risk Score (axb)	Mitigation	Post Mitigation Risk Impact (c)	Post Mitigation Risk Likelihood (d)	Post Mitigation Risk Score (cxd)	Progress Against Mitigation
Risk of Covid-19 vaccine waste due to ordering schedule and vaccine hesitancy	3	4	12	Close management of vaccine delivery plans to facilitate limiting ordering on weekly basis of thawed product to a minimum whilst continuing to	3	3	9	Work in progress around close monitoring and links with all Primary Care contractors directly into HB team. Meeting held with VPW team and finalising plans to hold frozen vaccine in GGH.

				<p>allow flexibility for opportunistic vaccination to maximise uptake.</p> <p>To ensure close monitoring of stock levels and use on digital system in place across all delivery centres / practices.</p> <p>Explore opportunity to store frozen vaccine within HB Pharmacy to provide assurance of availability when holding smaller orders.</p>				