Reference: FOI.5926.21
Subject: Second Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine
Date of Request: 29 April 2021

Requested:

1. How many people within the Hywel Dda area have not received their AstraZeneca second injection within the 12 week timescale limit?

2. What are the reasons for the delays?

3. All of the information which I have been able to access online clearly indicates that the second injection should be within the timescale of 11 to 12 weeks and I question why this has not been adhered to and the likely consequences of receiving the second injection out of time.

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) confirms that within the UHB’s geographical area, one hundred and forty nine (149) people did not receive their second AstraZeneca vaccination within the twelve (12) week timescale, as was recorded on the Welsh Immunisation System (WIS) at week commencing 7 June 2021.

2. The UHB is unable to provide you with the information requested as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the “appropriate level” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. The “appropriate level” represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours (or 2 ½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

   In order to provide you with the information requested, the UHB would need to undertake a manual trawl of all vaccine records across the forty eight (48) GP Practices and seven (7) Mass Vaccination Centres, to identify if the reason for the delay was recorded, as this information is not recorded centrally.

   As 149 people did not receive their second AstraZeneca vaccination within the 12 week timescale, conducting the search would far exceed the ‘appropriate level’, costing the UHB the following:

   \[ 149 \times 15 \text{ minutes per patient record} = 37.25 \text{ hours} \]
   \[ 37.5 \text{ hours} \times £25 \text{ per hour} = £931.25 \]

   The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), which provides an exemption from a public authority’s obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the appropriate limit.

3. As this information is already within the public domain, the UHB has applied an Exemption under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), as the information is accessible by another means. The UHB has answered a similar Freedom of Information request, FOI/5941/21, which is available on our disclosure log.
For ease of reference please click on the attached link which will take you directly to the UHB’s disclosure log webpage: