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Media Release

Bath's large vaccination centre delivers its 200,000th jab!

Staff and volunteers at the large COVID-19 vaccination centre at Bath Racecourse are celebrating delivering their 200,000th jab.

Since opening in January this year, staff at the centre have been working flat out to deal with demand, regularly delivering more than 1,000 jabs a day, many of them potentially life-saving.

The team have been vaccinating all eligible cohorts as well as dealing with an increase in demand for booster vaccines, which means that the site may soon be delivering closer to 1,500 jabs a day.

The centre has been staffed by RUH workers and a team of volunteers who have given up their time to help with the vaccine roll out.

Gill May, Director of Nursing and Quality at Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "This really is an incredible achievement and everyone at the racecourse is delighted we've reached this milestone.

"I would like to thank everyone involved with the centre - staff and volunteers - for their incredible dedication – we wouldn't have been able to reach this vaccination total without their commitment and hard work.

"I would also like to thank everyone who has visited the vaccination centre to get their jab – by doing so you are helping to keep yourself, family and friends safe from serious illness."

With the vaccination centre already busy, and expected to get busier in the coming weeks, people are being asked to book their appointment to save them having to queue for too long.

You can book your appointment on the NHS website here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

Please wait to be invited for your booster by the NHS. Currently, booster vaccines are only available for people over the age of 40, those with an underlying health condition and frontline health and social care workers.

As soon as this changes, the NHS will invite those who qualify for a booster vaccine to come forward.

Gill added: “We really do recommend booking your appointment in advance, it will save you having to wait around for too long once you arrive at the vaccination centre. New slots are being added all the time, so if you can’t find a time and day to suit you at first keep checking the website for updates.

“If you do have an appointment but then can’t attend, please make sure you cancel it on the national booking system so someone else can use that slot to get vaccinated.

“If you prefer to get your jab as a walk-in, please do be prepared to wait and please stay polite and be patient with our staff who are doing their very best to help you. Please also check with the vaccination centre before setting off - walk-in vaccinations are not available on all days and sessions can close if they reach capacity.”

You can find your nearest walk-in vaccination centre here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/find-a-walk-in-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-site/>

More information about the local vaccination programme can be found here: [COVID-19 Vaccination information](#)

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Notes to Editor:

The Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust provides acute treatment and care for a catchment population of around 500,000 people in Bath, and the surrounding towns and villages in North East Somerset and Western Wiltshire. The hospital provides healthcare to the population served by four Clinical Commissioning Groups: Bath & North East Somerset CCG, Wiltshire CCG, Somerset CCG and South Gloucestershire CCG.

The Trust provides 759 beds and a comprehensive range of acute services including medicine and surgery, services for women and children, accident and emergency services, and diagnostic and clinical support services.

In 2015 The Royal United Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust acquired the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases (RNHRD) NHS Foundation Trust. The RNHRD treats patients from across the country offering services in rheumatology, chronic pain and chronic fatigue syndrome/ME, cancer related fatigue and fatigue linked to other long term conditions such as multiple sclerosis.

The RUH is changing - we have an exciting programme of redevelopment underway transforming our site and further improving the services we provide. The Trust has opened the purpose-built RNHRD and Brownsword Therapies Centre and is now working towards the new Dyson Cancer Centre. For more details visit: www.ruh.nhs.uk/about/fit_for_the_future

For more information about the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust visit: www.ruh.nhs.uk

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