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**Communications Department**  
Royal United Hospital  
Combe Park  
Bath  
BA1 3NG

Tel: 01225 826230 / 821459  
Mobile: 07557 756658 (office hours)

[Ruh-tr.communicationsteam@nhs.net](mailto:Ruh-tr.communicationsteam@nhs.net)  
[www.ruh.nhs.uk](http://www.ruh.nhs.uk)  
<https://twitter.com/RUHBath>

## Media Release

### **Bath vaccination centre celebrates delivering 50,000 booster jabs!**

The large vaccination centre at Bath Racecourse has now given out more than 50,000 booster jabs to local people.

The booster jab has been shown to greatly increase protection against all variants of Covid, including Omicron, and significantly reduces the likelihood of people getting seriously ill or hospitalised.

Staff at the vaccination centre celebrated reaching the milestone earlier this week.

The vaccination centre's Deputy Operations Director Rachael Whiteley said: "This really is a great achievement and will be having such a positive impact in the local community, helping to keep our most vulnerable safe from serious illness.

"I would like to thank everyone who has taken up the offer of a booster. By doing so you are helping to keep your loved ones safe.

"I would also like to thank all the staff and volunteers based at the vaccination centre for their hard work and dedication – not only have they delivered 50,000 booster jabs but well over 230,000 vaccinations in total.

"We still have plenty of capacity at the racecourse for first, second and booster jabs and you don't have to book, just drop in.

"We are open Monday to Sunday, from 8am to 8pm (last appointments at 7.30pm) and look forward to seeing you soon!"

The large vaccination centre has recently welcomed Nicky Ashton as new Operations Director.

Nicky joins the team at the racecourse from her secondment at Salisbury Hospital, where she was Divisional Director for Women and Newborn. Previously, Nicky worked as Divisional Director of Operations for Surgery at the RUH.

Nicky said: "I'm delighted to be joining such a fantastic team and look forward to helping them to continue their excellent work delivering first, second and booster jabs to people of all ages in the local community."

**Ends**

**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](http://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](http://www.ruh.nhs.uk)