

REPORT TO ABERDEENSHIRE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD (IJB) 01 MARCH 2023

CHIEF OFFICER'S UPDATE

Update on Winter Resilience & Surge Plan

We reported to the IJB on our Winter Resilience and Surge Plans in December 2022 and advised that:

- The plans have been shared with the NHS Grampian Chief Executive and Aberdeenshire Council Senior Leadership Teams, and they have been included in the submission to Scottish Government as part of the NHS Grampian's Checklist for Winter Preparedness return.
- They have been cross-checked with the action areas and additional measures to support system flow requested in the Cabinet Secretaries correspondence of 12th October 2022.
- These plans are live and continue to be updated.

This plan outlined an increase in our general admission bed-base in our community hospital beds by 8 and an additional four surge beds, which was the maximum we could safely open. We are however, currently managing some challenges in relation to premises on two of our hospital sites and we are temporarily unable to take new admissions into two of our wards, although we are working on contingencies.

Across our in-house and external care homes, we have commissioned 21 interim care beds to add capacity to the system. These beds started coming onstream from 21st December 2022. These beds can be utilised for adults who have been assessed by Care Management and have an identified care need, including residential care or care at home. However, these beds cannot be used for patients whose assessed needs exceed that which can safely be provided within the care setting they are being placed in on an interim basis.

We are continuing to develop our pathways in collaboration across a number of workstreams. For example:

- Risk Assessed Care test of change.
- Use of Planned Date of Discharge.
- Criteria Led Discharge.
- Improved hospital to home transitions.

The Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership (AH&SCP) Public Health Team worked with NHS Grampian's Public Health Directorate and partners to produce the Winter Wellness booklet and this has been distributed across Grampian.

Thank you to Teams – Peak Winter Period

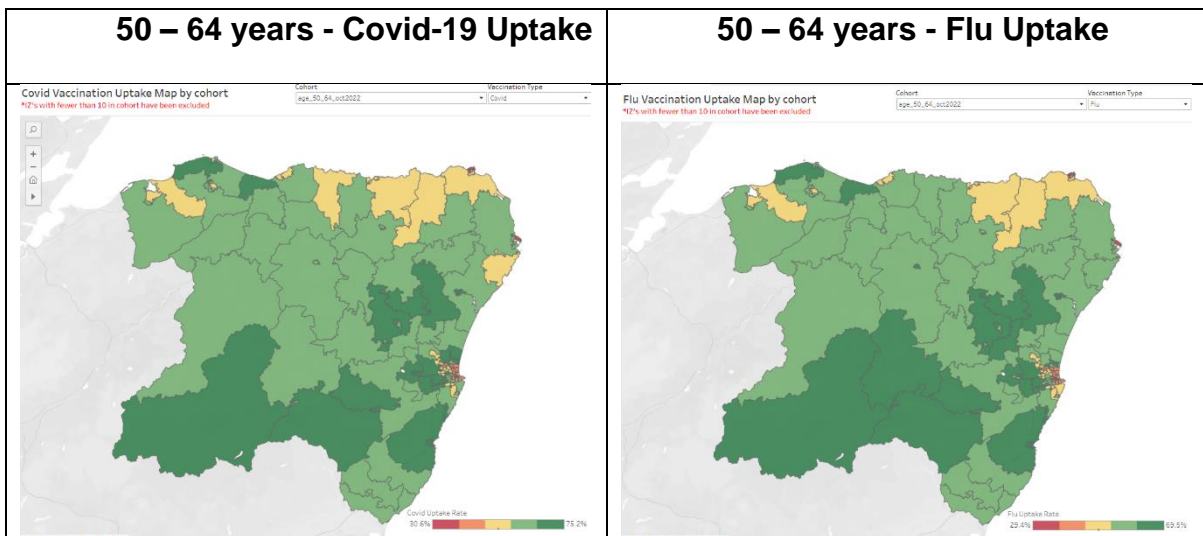
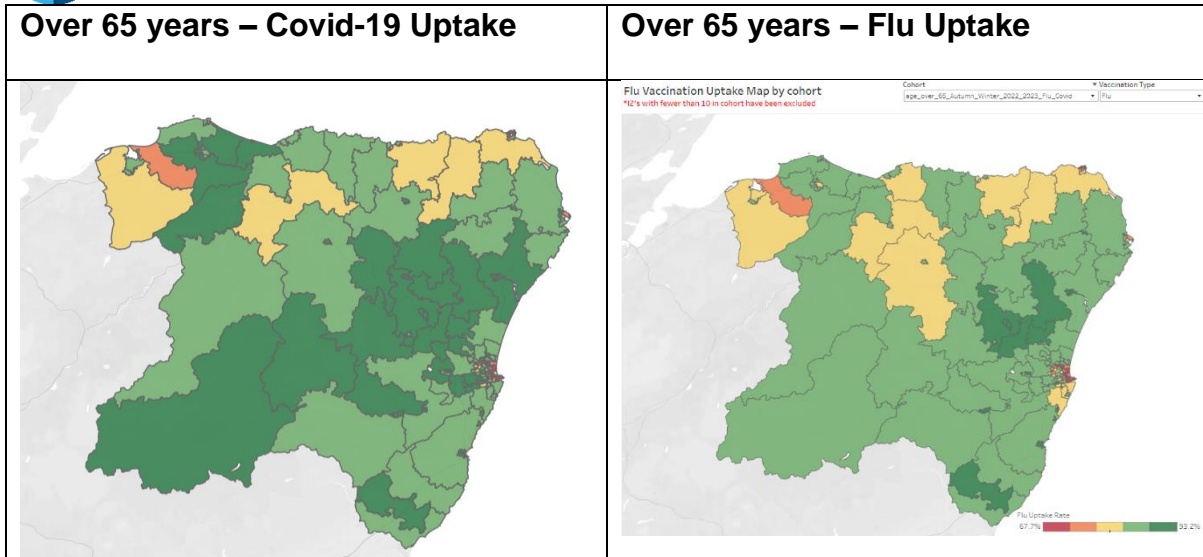
Thank you to the Operational Lead Nurses for their handling of flow and staffing both day to day and indeed by the on-call teams – especially over the public holiday period.

Winter Vaccination Programme Update

- The Autumn Winter vaccination programme commenced in Aberdeenshire on 5th September 2022 and our overall uptake as of 16th February 2023 is as follows:

	Aberdeenshire doses	Grampian	Scotland
Covid-19 boosters	103,709	73.5%	72.5%
Flu (adult)	130,958	64.7%	63.6%

- The vaccination programme has been delivered in a range of premises across Aberdeenshire. This was planned to ensure sufficient capacity was available to deliver the weekly run rates required to achieve the modelling of the programme. In Aberdeenshire this offer included our 7 vaccination centres as well as a number of school and community venues which were utilised at weekends and during school holidays. In addition to this we had access to the SAS mobile vaccination unit which was available for one week per month to support the offer of the vaccination to outreach areas.
- In early September, Health Boards were asked to put plans in place to accelerate the programme to ensure an offer was made to all eligible groups by the middle of December. To enable NHS Grampian to deliver this we developed a number of agreements to support vaccination activity for 6 weeks from 24th October 2022 until 4th December 2022. This included 3 GP practices supporting the delivery of the programme for 50 – 64-year-olds in Strathdon, Ballater and Braemar areas. We also worked with 28 community pharmacies who supported the delivery of the programme and offered both covid-19 and flu vaccinations to eligible groups.
- We have continued to review the uptake of the programme throughout and have an ongoing plan in place to ensure that we are addressing health inequalities and supporting continued high levels of vaccine uptake. The below cold spot maps are an example of what is used for internal planning purposes to support and allow us to plan pop up and outreach activity. Our outreach activity commenced in the middle of December once the initial offer had been made to all citizens.



- An autumn/winter lessons learnt session is planned and this will ensure that all learning and areas for improvements are factored into delivery of future programmes. This session will include workforce, premises, scheduling, and communications.
- We await Joint Committee on Vaccinations and Immunisation (JCVI) advice on the spring booster programme, however, continue to plan based on the current programme assumptions. Some of the areas that we will focus on include:
 - Approach to delivery – we have now had agreement from Scottish Government Flu Vaccination Covid Vaccination (FVCV) team in relation to bundling eligible cohort invitations. This was carried out in NHS Highland during autumn/winter. This will help assist the delivery of the programme to our rural communities.
 - Scheduling - we are meeting with the national scheduling team to discuss our requirements to support the rural nature of our board. Grampian has



- been identified as a health board requiring a bespoke plan to support the scheduling of our citizens.
- Pop up clinics are being booked in rural areas at present to ensure that sufficient venues are available for future programmes. Identifying new locations as they become available to increase outreach to rural areas.

 - Pneumococcal vaccinations are scheduled to commence this month, there are 19,520 eligible. These should be completed before the start of the Spring booster programme and appointment letters have started to be delivered. As this is the first time the partnership has carried out these vaccinations, a review of uptake will be undertaken and if any cold spots are identified additional pop up clinics will be scheduled.

 - Shingles vaccinations are underway across Aberdeenshire having started in January. Over 5,400 shingles vaccinations have taken place so far and an additional 1,050 appointments have been made for the coming weeks. As this is the first time the partnership has carried out these vaccinations, a review of uptake will be undertaken and if any cold spots are identified additional pop up clinics will be scheduled.

Pam Milliken
Chief Officer
Aberdeenshire Health & Social Care Partnership