



DECEMBER
2020

West Lothian IJB Newsletter



**INTEGRATED
HEALTH AND
SOCIAL CARE**

WEST Lothian
WORKING FOR WELLBEING

COVID-19 Staff Vaccination Programme

Vaccination programme reaches West Lothian care homes

The Covid-19 vaccination programme is continuing to roll out in West Lothian.

As of Tuesday 22 December, approximately 1,800 health and social care staff in priority groups have received the vaccine in West Lothian so far.

The vaccination programme is now being extended to care home residents and any care home staff who have not been vaccinated in local clinics. Care homes defined as being at high risk from Covid-19, including larger homes and homes with high levels of frailty, and those which have already had an outbreak, are being prioritised.

The privately-owned Peacock Nursing Home in Livingston was among the latest care homes to receive a visit from the vaccination team. Pictured is Wilma Campbell, Manager of Peacock Nursing Home, alongside members of the vaccination team receiving supplies of the vaccine to administer to residents and staff.



Message from the Chief Officer

Welcome to the West Lothian IJB newsletter, which I hope provides you with an update on some key service developments as well as highlighting areas of interest. In what has been an incredibly challenging year, I am very grateful to the huge efforts by our staff across health and social care, including our independent and third sector partners, in ensuring that service users, patients, families and carers continued to receive the right support and care during the pandemic. There is still more to be done but I am confident that we are well placed to meet these challenges. As we move in to the festive season, I know that many of our staff will be delivering frontline care throughout this time and my sincere thanks go to them for fulfilling this important role. I know that Christmas will be different this year but I hope that you are still able to have a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Allister

“

I would like to say thank you to Colin and the team who attended Woodlands yesterday to administer the residents vaccines. They were extremely efficient and professional -
Manager of Woodlands Nursing Home

”



Supporting Our Care Homes

We continue to remain focused on supporting our care homes across West Lothian, many of whom have been impacted by the 2nd wave of Covid, which has sadly resulted in a number of deaths – our thoughts are with families and loved ones during these difficult times. The Care Home Support Team are providing ongoing input to care homes, which is being welcomed by care staff within these settings and we are working with care homes to implement lateral flow testing (LFT) for visitors. All adult care homes are being issued with LFT kits to support designated visitor testing, with the introduction of this approach being used to enhance existing visiting guidance and provide an additional layer of protection. With the planned move to Tier 4 on 26 December, care homes will only be able to support indoor visiting for essential visits, which we know will be hard for families at this time of year, and we continue to support care homes through this process, including the introduction of tests for these essential visits. We will keep this position under review and will ensure adherence to further Scottish Government guidance as and when it emerges.

Keeping Well Over the Holidays

We have partnered with Health in Mind to launch local wellbeing booklets for the festive period. The free booklets have been developed in response to the additional pressures that COVID-19 presents for people this winter. They look at the things people can do to look after their mental health and wellbeing from the comfort of their homes. It includes resources to help people cope with the unique challenges that they are facing, like grief, loneliness and staying connected. It also brings together a range of helpful contacts and has some craft ideas.

You can download a digital copy online via [this link](#).

'Our Turn to Care' - Gleneagles Hotel gives back

Finally, two members of staff within the Health and Social Care Partnership have been selected at random to receive a voucher for 2 people to enjoy an overnight stay, with breakfast, in Gleneagles Hotel. In response to the pandemic, Gleneagles Hotel started an initiative to thank staff working in NHS Boards and Health and Social Care Partnerships across Scotland through their 'Our Turn to Care' initiative.

Congratulations to Carina Mungavin (pictured), Social Worker in the Older People's Team, and Carolyn Lynch, Art Therapist. Enjoy your special stays!



“

I am so lucky to have the chance to escape to Gleneagles. It's a boost to realise that there's always hope for better times ahead. Thanks for giving us this lucky opportunity.

”