



West Lancs CVS is working alongside West Lancs Borough Council and our public sector partners to make sure that key coronavirus (COVID-19) facts and messages are available to all West Lancs residents via voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise organisations.

Please join in these efforts to provide clear information to our community by cascading these messages to your networks, work colleagues, friends and families.

Local situation

Contingency planning for surge testing

Due to high levels of concern across the UK about COVID-19 variants, and recent outbreaks in neighbouring boroughs and districts, WLBC is developing a plan of what would be needed IF West Lancs was asked to carry out surge testing.

If surge testing is needed in the borough, the Council would be looking for volunteers to help with a number of things such as

- Distributing and/or collecting test kits
- Support with getting the message out via posting leaflets or sharing on social media

If your community group/ organisation could support this process (should it be needed) please complete the following survey. You would only be asked to support the areas of the borough you select in the survey.

You can access the survey here: <https://westlancs.citizenspace.com/engagement/6d533301>

Please note: there is NO surge testing currently going on in West Lancs – this is just to have a plan ready should the need arise.

Vaccinations

Local success

West Lancs CCG reports that we are approaching **1 million people vaccinated in Lancashire & South Cumbria.**

In West Lancashire:

- 69,746 people have had a first dose
- 43,256 have also had a second dose

Thank you to everyone supporting the rollout in our area!

Book your vaccine

If you're aged 34 or over (or turn 34 before 1st July 2021) you can now book your COVID-19 vaccine.

Invitation texts are being to those aged 34 and 35 yesterday and today. If you haven't received a text, you can still book direct via the [national booking service](#) or phone 119.



Younger people in their thirties are expected to be invited over the next few days and weeks.

(People aged 39 and under who are eligible and pregnant women will be offered the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine in line with recently updated JCVI guidance).

Second doses to be offered earlier for over 50s

As part of plans to tackle rising cases of the B.1.617.2 variant, second dose vaccine appointments will be brought forward from 12 to 8 weeks for people over 50 who have yet to receive their second dose. **Find more information [here](#).**

People should continue to attend their second dose appointments and **nobody needs to contact the NHS**. People should continue to attend their appointments unless told otherwise. The NHS will let those who should bring their appointment forward know, when they are able to do so. More information [here](#).

Covid-19 testing

Local testing sites

Even if you have no covid symptoms you can still get up to two free coronavirus tests per week. You can either:

- **Take the test at a symptom free testing site**
- **Collect tests from a symptom free testing site to use at home later**
- **Order home testing kits online if you cannot attend a testing site**

For information on all testing sites across West Lancs or how to order a test online, go to: westlancs.gov.uk/symptom-freetesting

Support and resources

COVID vaccination video in BSL

[SignHealth](#) has worked with other deaf organisations to create a COVID vaccination information video. Watch it on YouTube [here](#)

Guidance for community groups

Lancashire County Council's Community Projects team have produced a useful summary of guidance to community groups during covid – view it on our website:

www.wlcvs.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Guidance-for-community-groups-during-COVID.pdf

Covid home testing instructions in different languages

If you need the instructions for how to use a Covid-19 rapid home testing kit in other languages or formats, these can be found on the [Gov.uk website](#). Easy Read and large print formats are also available to download.

Vaccine frequently asked questions

The British Heart Foundation has answers to lots of frequently asked questions about the vaccine [here](#). Some are heart condition specific, but others very informative for all of us.

Can you help? West Lancs CVS is in the process of developing new Volunteer Roles to help our community come together and work together for everyone's safety in the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you are interested please contact enquiries@wlcvs.org