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Media Release

Bath Racecourse NHS vaccine centre marks one month of protecting the public

The large public vaccination centre at Bath Racecourse is marking one month of opening, during which more than 10,000 people from the local community have visited to receive their first coronavirus jab.

That number is made up mostly of those aged over 70 or clinically vulnerable. Now the vaccination centre programme is moving on to the next group of people who are eligible for vaccination.

You do not need to wait to be contacted if any of the following apply:

- You are aged 64 or over
- You have previously received a letter saying you are at high risk from coronavirus (clinically extremely vulnerable)
- You are an eligible frontline health or frontline social care worker
- You are eligible for Carer's Allowance

You can book appointment at Bath Racecourse via the NHS website. People are asked not to turn up at Bath Racecourse without an appointment as the vaccination staff will be unable to give the jab to anyone without a pre-arranged vaccine slot.

Vaccine Centre Operations Director Heather Cooper said: "It's been a great success since we saw our first members of the public in January. Our staff and volunteers have done a fantastic job and many people who've come to us for their first vaccination have told us they've been so pleased and grateful."

The Racecourse is giving vaccines in a large specially-equipped marquee near the main grandstand buildings. White boards inside carry messages from those who have been vaccinated, such as:

- “Thank you, very efficient, the NHS at its best.”
- “Friendly! Caring – I felt very safe.”
- “Heartfelt thanks to you all. Keep safe.”

Heather Cooper said: “We have capacity right now to see people in the 64-plus and 16-64 groups who are eligible for an appointment or eligible as above. It’s important that all those eligible take up the offer, so we can then move on to vaccinate all adults across our population by the autumn.”

For more information visit <https://bit.ly/37M6gF8>

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

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