

10/01/21

To Swallownest Health Centre Practice Manager & GP Partners

I am writing to you regarding the opportunity of administrating the Covid vaccination at Swallownest Health centre or in the local vicinity.

Everyone appreciates that with the first approved vaccine, the logistics and storage is a heightened challenge. However with the availability of the Oxford vaccine now arriving, there is a growing voice in our community to also vaccinate within our village.

Whilst the service at Anston is great, we need to consider that it is and will continue to be a barrier for certain elements of our community. Clear links between social deprivation and covid rates have been established in the last months, and as the vaccination program intensifies, we shouldn't create a logistical or financial barrier to access by forcing some elements of our community to catch public transport or take a taxi. This heightens their risk at a time where the virus is spreading more virulent than ever, and creates an additional burden in terms of time and money.

Additionally certain elements of our community will continue to be uncomfortable about having the vaccine and by only making it available outside of the parish it gives them another reason not to engage.

We should look to broaden the deployment by administrating at Swallownest Health Centre or our Parish Hall, which are both at the centre of our local community. Additionally the flu clinics ran in the autumn have proven that such a program can be executed locally safely and the S26 Covid support group are ready and willing to assist.

Let's use our local assets, learnings and expertise to help return our community to normality as soon as possible with minimal additional disruption.

Best Regards

Tony Fisher
On behalf of the Patient
Participation Group

Maria Glover
On behalf of the S26 Covid
Support Group

Mark Tideswell
On behalf of Aston TARA

Enclosed: emails of support from all Holderness Ward Councilors:

Lyndsey Pitchley

Robert Taylor

Michael Elliot

From: Cllr Lyndsay Pitchley <Lyndsay.Pitchley@rotherham.gov.uk>
Date: 10 January 2021 at 19:36:01 GMT
To: Patricia Wade
Subject: local COVID vaccination site

Dear Pat

I would like to support and help in any way, to have a local Covid vaccination site within our ward.

We have the Aston service centre, which we you are more than aware, successfully runs the flu vaccine programme, we also have the Parish hall which has already I believe been inspected to be considered previously as a vaccination centre, whilst smaller than the service centre we can still run a safe local vaccination programme from the site.

Along side our excellent venues and dedicated staff, we have the well-established S26 Aston volunteers, (a group I, along with many other volunteer with), S26 already support the current vaccine programme at Anston, which currently is our nearest site.

Whilst this site is an excellent centre and has served well, with the new vaccine that can be stored in the same conditions as the flu vaccine I now feel it the right time to move forward and establish the local Covid vaccine programme.

Anston is a journey that is two bus rides away, which for the elderly and vulnerable residents locally it can be difficult, or impossible to access.

I am in total support of a local centre being opened, the Government are wanting a larger vaccination role out programme therefore this is an ideal opportunity to vaccinate and protect more people.

Kind regards

Cllr Lyndsay Pitchley

From: Cllr Michael Elliott <Michael.Elliott@rotherham.gov.uk>
Date: 10 January 2021 at 11:48:58 GMT
To: Patricia Wade
Subject: RE: Vaccination

Good Morning Pat,

Thank you for contacting me. I fully support the patients group in your quest to have a more local vaccination centre established. Whilst Anston appears to be operating efficiently, I feel sure that some elderly will be experiencing transport problems. We do need a vaccination centre in our Ward.

Regards
Mick

Councillor Mick Elliott
Councillor for Holderness Ward
Rotherham Borough Council
Mobile - 07739455945
E-Mail Michael.Elliott@rotherham.gov.uk
Rotherham Democratic Party

From: Cllr Robert Taylor [<mailto:Robert.Taylor@rotherham.gov.uk>]
Sent: 10 January 2021 11:23
To:
Subject: Proposed Vaccination Centre

Dear Pat

It is very good news that some of the most vulnerable members of our community have been able to receive the Covid-19 vaccination. The work done by all who have distributed and administered the vaccine is incredible, as is the collective effort to run the vaccination point at Anston Service Centre. I have nothing but praise for all involved

I have however, had some feedback that though eternally grateful, some members of our community have experienced difficulties in getting to the Anston vaccination centre. On reflection this is not difficult to understand, currently and for some time to come, recipients of the vaccination will be amongst the most vulnerable in our community. Mobility issues make travel difficult in 'normal' times with current restrictions intensifying those issues.

There is a very strong case for a 'local' vaccination centre. I am pleased that you and the wider Patient Participation Group have already considered this matter and furthermore highlighted Aston Cum Aughton Parish Hall as a venue. The Parish Hall in my opinion, would suitably adapt for such a purpose, it offers good accessibility and a strong Wi-Fi access for administrative purposes. Further advantages would be the reduced travel times and improved public transport links.

I have no hesitation in joining the call for the Parish hall to be strongly considered for a vaccination centre and offer my continued support to help in whichever way I can.

Kind Regards

Robert

Councillor Robert Taylor

Labour Councillor Holderness Ward - Rotherham MBC

Chair South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority

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