

LRF Communications Briefing – Covid19

21 July 2021

LRFBIZ V70 - ECONOMIC RESPONSE & RECOVERY VERSION

Coronavirus Headlines

England moves into step 4 of Covid-19 roadmap

Step 4 of the roadmap proceeded as planned on Monday 19 July, as confirmed by the Prime Minister. The Government is emphasising caution and personal responsibility as cases continue to rise but links with hospitalisations and deaths have been weakened due to national vaccination efforts. Further info [here](#).

Lincolnshire in sight of 85% vaccination target but urges more people to come forwards

The Covid vaccination programme in Lincolnshire has all but hit its 85% target, having given well over 900,000 first and second doses to people across the county. Having embarked on the programme back in December 2020, the vaccination teams have reached 84.5% (first vaccinations, cohorts 1-12), continue to urge people to come forwards to get vaccinated. Being in sight of the 85% target does not mean that the vaccination programme stops or even pauses for breath, there are still pockets of people who have not come forwards for their vaccinations.

"We'd like to see anyone who's not been vaccinated or had their second vaccination, but we're especially keen to vaccinate younger people who have not yet come forwards, if you are still undecided please do come along to one of our vaccine centres and discuss your concerns" said Rebecca Neno, Deputy Chief Nurse, NHS Lincolnshire CCG. "We are also keen to remind people who might have previously had Covid that any immunity this exposure might have given them will decrease over time - they should not rely on this to give them longer-term protection, they still need to be vaccinated"

As part of the on-going vaccination programme across the county, the various walk-in opportunities continue, enabling people to be vaccinated without booking an appointment first. *"People have responded well to the walk-ins, I think because of the ease of being able to just turn up and we were also particularly pleased with the response to the late night walk-ins at our two Mass Vaccination Centres at PRSA, Boston, and the Lincolnshire Showground, and will be repeating this at both sites this Thursday evening until 10pm. Following on from the so-called 'Freedom Day' I think it's worthwhile reminding people that it's still important to do the right thing and to use common sense, but most critical of all is getting vaccinated. Please remember, getting vaccinated is the best way out of this for all of us,"* concludes Rebecca.

Almost 100% of people have antibodies after second vaccine

Over 207,337 participants took part in a home surveillance study for Covid-19 antibodies between 12-25 May 2021. Almost 100% of people tested positive for antibodies 14 or more days after their second vaccine dose, highlighting the importance of getting both doses for the best possible protection. Further info [here](#).

Business & Economy

Greater Lincolnshire LEP seeking new Visitor Economy board members

The LEP is looking for business leaders from the tourism, hospitality, retail, arts and events sectors in Greater Lincolnshire and Rutland to join its existing Visitor Economy Board.

The successful candidates will help lead the visitor economy sector in Greater Lincolnshire and Rutland towards a brighter future focusing on economic recovery and growth following the pandemic. Read the press release [here](#) for more information.

New hospitality strategy to help pubs, bars and restaurants build back better from the pandemic

The first-ever hospitality strategy has been launched to support the reopening, recovery and resilience of England's pubs, restaurants, cafes, and nightclubs. Measures to build back better and greener from the pandemic include bringing businesses together with universities to boost innovation, and reducing waste and plastic consumption. A Hospitality Sector Council has been established and co-chaired by entrepreneur Karen Jones and Minister Scully to oversee delivery of the strategy. Further info [here](#).

Visit Lincoln summarises latest guidance for the hospitality and tourism sector

Visit [Visit Lincoln](#) for more information and guidance for the sector.

CJRS Guidance Updated

HMRC has updated its guidance to businesses on claiming CJRS to remind operators that, from 1 July 2021, they will pay 70% of wages up to a maximum cap of £2187.50 for the hours the employee is on furlough; and from 1 August 2021, they will pay 60% of wages up to a maximum cap of £1,875 for the hours the employee is on furlough. Employers must top up employees' wages to make sure they receive 80% of their wages (up to £2,500) for the hours they are on furlough. The caps are proportional to the hours not worked. Click [here](#) for more info.

Risk Assessment and Management Templates

With the publication of the primary guidance for tourism and hospitality businesses yesterday, it is a legal requirement for businesses to undertake a risk assessment process for mitigating the risks of Covid-19 to staff, customers, and contractors on the premises. To help, HSE has produced a dedicated page for businesses that guides this process which can be accessed [here](#). The risk assessment template can be found [here](#).

DCMS have also produced a risk management template specifically for event organisers which sets out examples of the types of risk mitigation measures event organisers can put in place to reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission at events. This should be used in conjunction with the events and attractions guidance. View the template [here](#).

Tools, Webinars & Events

Greater Lincolnshire Online Jobs and Careers Fair

The next in the series of online jobs and careers fairs organised by the Greater Lincolnshire LEP will be live on Wednesday 28 July, from 10am-1pm. The event will be hosted by MP for Scunthorpe, Holly Mumby-Croft.

Various employers will be in attendance such as NHS Lincolnshire, Lincolnshire County Council, TSC Foods, and METIS Aerospace, along with a variety of local colleges and training providers. The jobs fair is free for both visitors and exhibitors and can be accessed via the LEP's custom-built website [here](#), where helpful information and contact details are available 24/7 between live events. Businesses can register for a free virtual exhibition stand [here](#).

Upcoming Local events

- **FSB Rutland Virtual Networking** - virtual networking event. Tuesday 10 August, click [here](#) for more.
- **Women in Innovation Awards Briefing** - webinar. Tuesday 24 August, click [here](#) for more.
- **Chamber Connect: Getting started with CRM workshop** - webinar. Tuesday 7 September, click [here](#) for more.

To discover more upcoming events, webinars, and online courses, click [here](#) to visit the Business Lincolnshire calendar. All www.gov.uk webinars and videos for organisations that trade with the EU can be found [here](#).

Fixed key messaging

The Lincolnshire Resilience Forum has created a Recovery Comms Cell made up of county and district councils, NHS, and LEP/Business Lincolnshire leads to ensure consistency of key messaging. This is not intended as a comprehensive list but to update on new and key messages relevant to economic response and recovery. Follow and tag on Twitter @ [LRF](#) @[GreaterLincsLEP](#) @[businesslincs](#)

CONTACT THE TEAM – IF YOU NEED ANY HELP OR ASSISTANCE PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT A MEMBER OF OUR TEAM

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