MINI BULLETIN – 02 December 2023

**NHS and care volunteer responders**

The NHS and Care Volunteer Responders programme has mobilised volunteers who are available to provide support to NHS services. [Referrals](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpcc-cic.us5.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Dfe51aa41404cfb64f7d454491%26id%3D8ac025a4db%26e%3D9be2819f9a&data=05%7C01%7C%7C6b027872bc594ee4bc5008dbf329408f%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638371130720964276%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ynMDOTs4WZHH5NpjDTh%2FMfbWaV1sVP2PVyW9quI%2Fzcs%3D&reserved=0) for volunteer support can be made by any health and social care professional.

Making a referral is quick and easy, and the calls can positively impact a person’s wellbeing.

**Winter vaccinations**

From Friday 15 December, the national booking system and NHS App will close for flu and COVID-19 vaccination booking.

After this date you can [book a COVID-19 vaccination directly](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fintouch.cmail19.com%2Ft%2Fd-l-vhiuuhl-tjxdrjjp-h%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C6b027872bc594ee4bc5008dbf329408f%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638371130721120534%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2BQ5sFFwZGdhRPoRLylYg33UpcLEkiSkeBAH9kJuDg94%3D&reserved=0) with a local vaccination service, such as a Pharmacy or visit a walk-in site.

You can book a flu jab by [contacting your GP surgery](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fintouch.cmail19.com%2Ft%2Fd-l-vhiuuhl-tjxdrjjp-k%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C6b027872bc594ee4bc5008dbf329408f%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638371130721120534%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2BTSDle6HELEmJ5tPYGdw%2BUYeRbl490zPuKDLX92cGFU%3D&reserved=0) or [finding a Pharmacy](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fintouch.cmail19.com%2Ft%2Fd-l-vhiuuhl-tjxdrjjp-u%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C6b027872bc594ee4bc5008dbf329408f%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638371130721120534%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=I99hnbiSWlYEhbNk%2BshuPP0AGHWOmQKNOEybSOuolxg%3D&reserved=0).

The NHS COVID pass will close on 4 December 2023, as vaccination status no longer needs to be demonstrated domestically or for international travel and the pass is no longer needed.

**Cancer bus tours country**

A double-decker bus is touring parts of the country to raise awareness of the [signs and symptoms of Cancer](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fintouch.cmail19.com%2Ft%2Fd-l-vhiuuhl-tjxdrjjp-n%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C6b027872bc594ee4bc5008dbf329408f%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638371130721120534%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=LkrDPS1YJKOeZVssUq9lrZ3BEiSrgT9Esbtq%2FXK9Dao%3D&reserved=0) and urge people to visit their GP if they notice something unusual.

The [giant blue bus](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fintouch.cmail19.com%2Ft%2Fd-l-vhiuuhl-tjxdrjjp-p%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C6b027872bc594ee4bc5008dbf329408f%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638371130721120534%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=8He115esoz4NsghPm8V8FxO3k09WcFL76fG9u8LUcDk%3D&reserved=0) is branded with striking messages to remind people that catching cancer earlier makes it more treatable. One message highlights that of the 78 passengers that the bus can carry, 65 would survive Cancer if it was found at the earliest stage.

Over the 450-mile journey, the bus will visit areas where early diagnosis rates for cancer are among the lowest.

**Giant lung roadshow tour**

We are raising awareness of Lung Cancer by taking eye-catching giant inflatable lungs on a [tour through lung cancer hotspots](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fintouch.cmail19.com%2Ft%2Fd-l-vhiuuhl-tjxdrjjp-c%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C6b027872bc594ee4bc5008dbf329408f%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638371130721120534%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=2Vir3AwoQHk5i5DiVebT6mL%2BCHfsyYooOT52nzfgyi8%3D&reserved=0). The tour will help people to recognise their [potential Cancer symptoms](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fintouch.cmail19.com%2Ft%2Fd-l-vhiuuhl-tjxdrjjp-q%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C6b027872bc594ee4bc5008dbf329408f%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638371130721120534%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Y0FKjhrIQJZdJGi2AJS0PlrzvhQtDbhXpRiuFtqv1Qw%3D&reserved=0) earlier.

It comes as new survey data reveals around half of those questioned believed that Lung Cancer only affects a small amount of people every year. In fact, Lung Cancer is the leading cause of Cancer deaths in the UK.

**Travel for treatment option**

Patients who have been waiting the longest for treatment are being offered the [opportunity to travel to a different hospital](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fintouch.cmail19.com%2Ft%2Fd-l-vhiuuhl-tjxdrjjp-v%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C6b027872bc594ee4bc5008dbf329408f%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638371130721120534%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3Bx93TILlHoXqwoLvZqW2i%2FB5DX%2Bs5fLI%2F9NT2zaOms%3D&reserved=0), if it means they could be seen sooner. Up to 400,000 eligible patients who have been waiting longer than 40 weeks will be contacted by their hospital.

Patients will be able to submit their details including how far they are willing to travel – 50 miles, 100 miles or nationally. Teams can then identify if alternative hospitals have capacity to see them sooner.

**Updates to the NHS App**

The NHS App has been redesigned to make it simpler for patients to find and access services. Patients will be prompted to update their NHS App over the next few weeks and will see an updated home page, simpler structure, and easier-to-understand language. The roll out should start before Christmas.

Some services have moved within the NHS App, but all the services patients need are still available.