

Tower Hamlets COVID-19 update

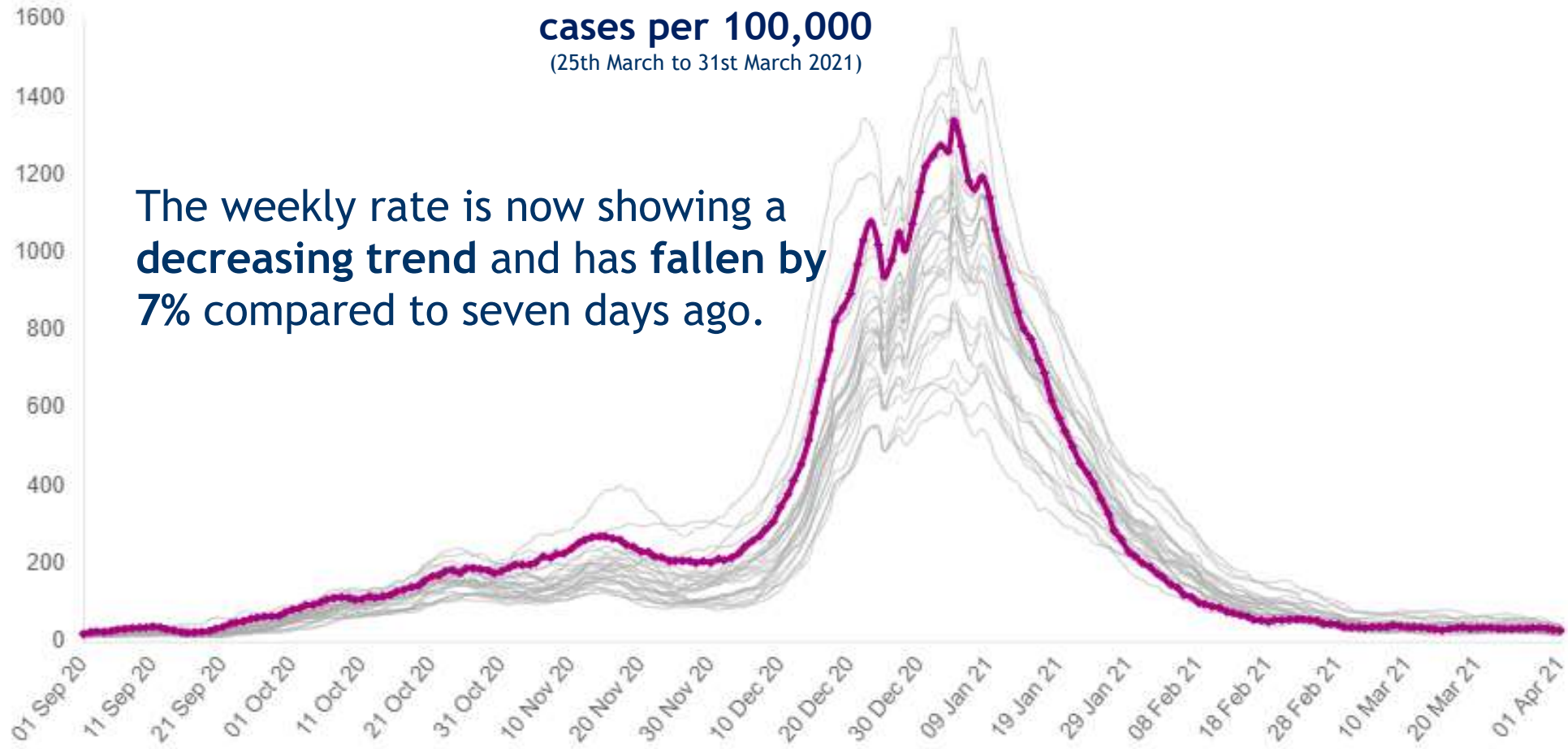
Health and Wellbeing Board
6th April, 2021



Weekly incidence rate trends

29.9

cases per 100,000
(25th March to 31st March 2021)



Source: PHE Covid-19 Situational Awareness Explorer..



Timescales



All schools colleges & childcare re-open – incl. before- & after-school clubs

Meeting one person from another household in outdoor public spaces allowed

Care home residents allowed one visitor

Funerals (30), wakes & weddings (6)

(from 8 March)

Rule of six or two households meeting outdoors allowed inc private gardens

Outdoor sports (tennis/football/basketball courts o/d pools re-open)

Minimise travel, no holidays

Stay at home order ends

(from 29 March)

All retail re-opens

Outdoor hospitality re-opens

Outdoor settings (alcohol take-ways, beer gardens, zoos, theme parks) re-open

Indoor leisure (gyms, pools) re-opens

Libraries and Community centres re-open

Self-contained holiday accommodation re-opens

Continue to WFH if you can

30 person limit outdoors

Two households can mix indoors

Indoor entertainment and hospitality re-opens

Indoor events - up to 10,000 or 50% capacity

Outdoor seated events - up to 10,000 or 25%

Up to 30 people can attend most significant life events

International travel - STR

Hotels etc. can open

Continue to WFH if you can

Remove all legal limits on social contact

Remaining sectors re-open – e.g. nightclubs

No limits on weddings, funerals

Larger events allowed

Step One - from 8 March

Step Two - from 12 April

Step Three - from 17 May

Step Four - from 21 June

March

April

May

June

The best of London
in one borough



Local Outbreak Management Plan



1. Understanding the local picture
2. Keeping background levels low
3. Limiting transmission in infected cases
4. Preventing and managing outbreaks
5. Vaccinating the population
6. Engaging communities and addressing inequality
7. Living with COVID-19



Vaccinating our borough

Update



Why is COVID-19 vaccination important?



- We have all felt the impact of COVID-19 on all our communities in Tower Hamlets
- Vaccinating our population is vital to prevent what has happened over the past year happening again now and in the future
- If you have the vaccination
 - Your chances of getting COVID-19 are reduced by at least 80%
 - Your chance of severe illness from COVID-19 is almost zero
 - You are much less likely to pass COVID-19 to your family and friends
 - You are joining over 20 million in England who have had the vaccine
- **To get the full impact of vaccination we need to work together to get over 90% of adults vaccinated**

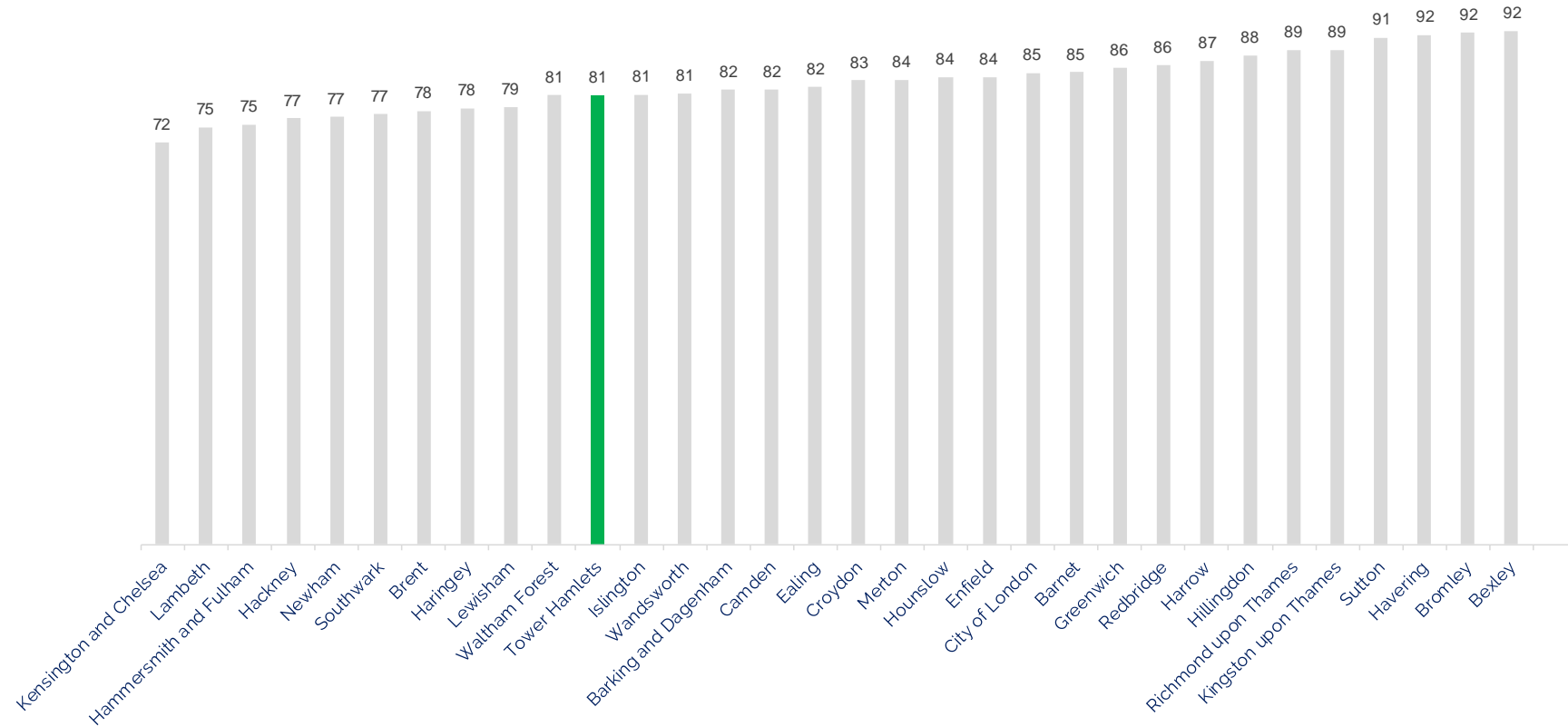


Progress



Vaccination rates in London: % aged 65 and over to have had their first dose

Source: NHS England. Based on NIMS data (8th December 2020 to 28th March 2021)



Over 70,000 people in Tower Hamlets have been vaccinated since mid December

81% of over 65s

- Variation of uptake by
- Ethnicity
 - Geographically
 - By GP practice
 - Between frontline staff teams

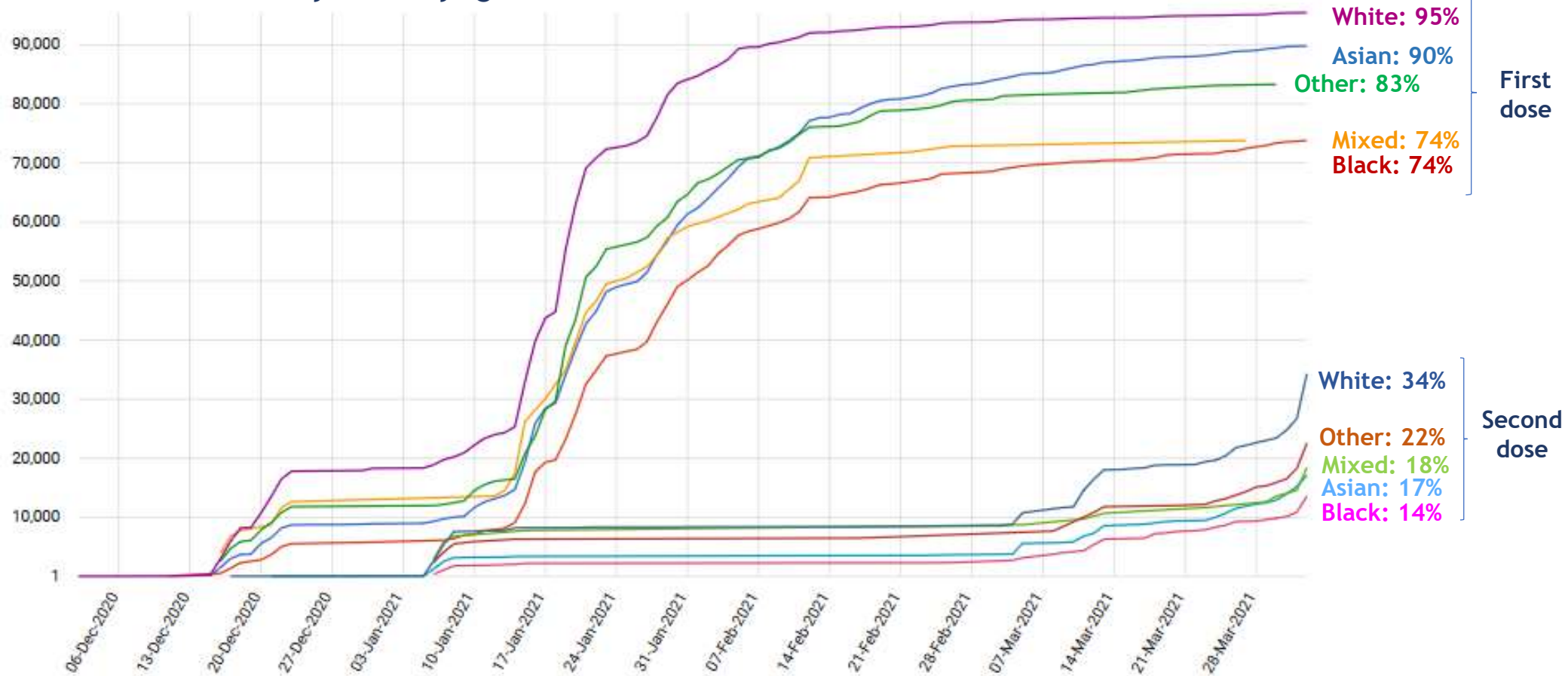


Cumulative vaccination rates by ethnicity

(first dose only)



Cumulative rates by ethnicity aged 65 and over since December:

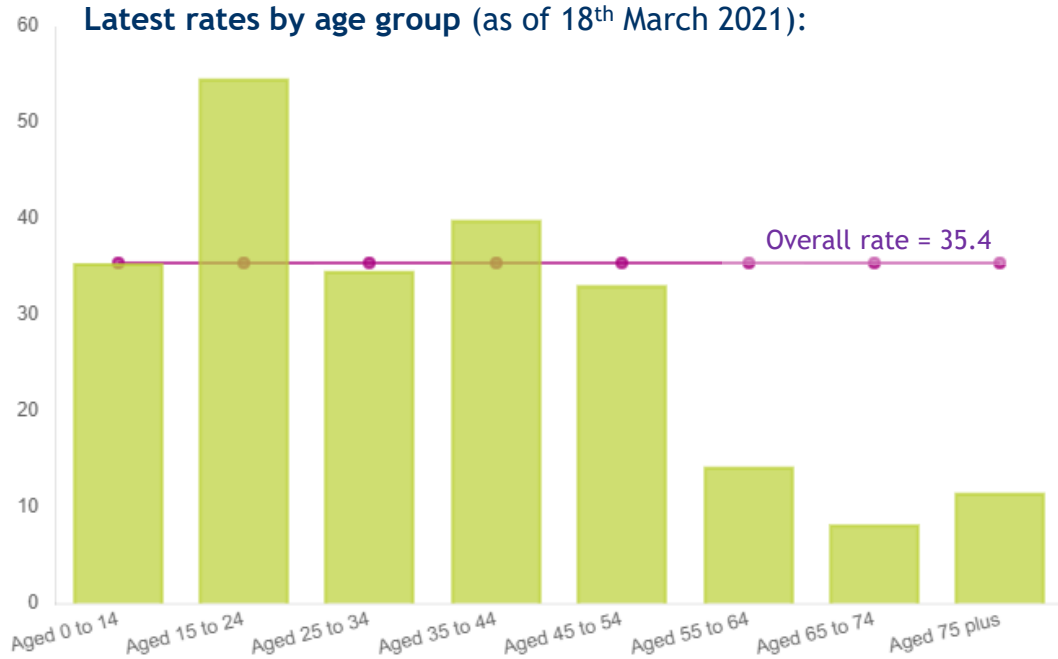


This shows the gap between groups is now narrowing for those age 65 + having their first dose of vaccine.

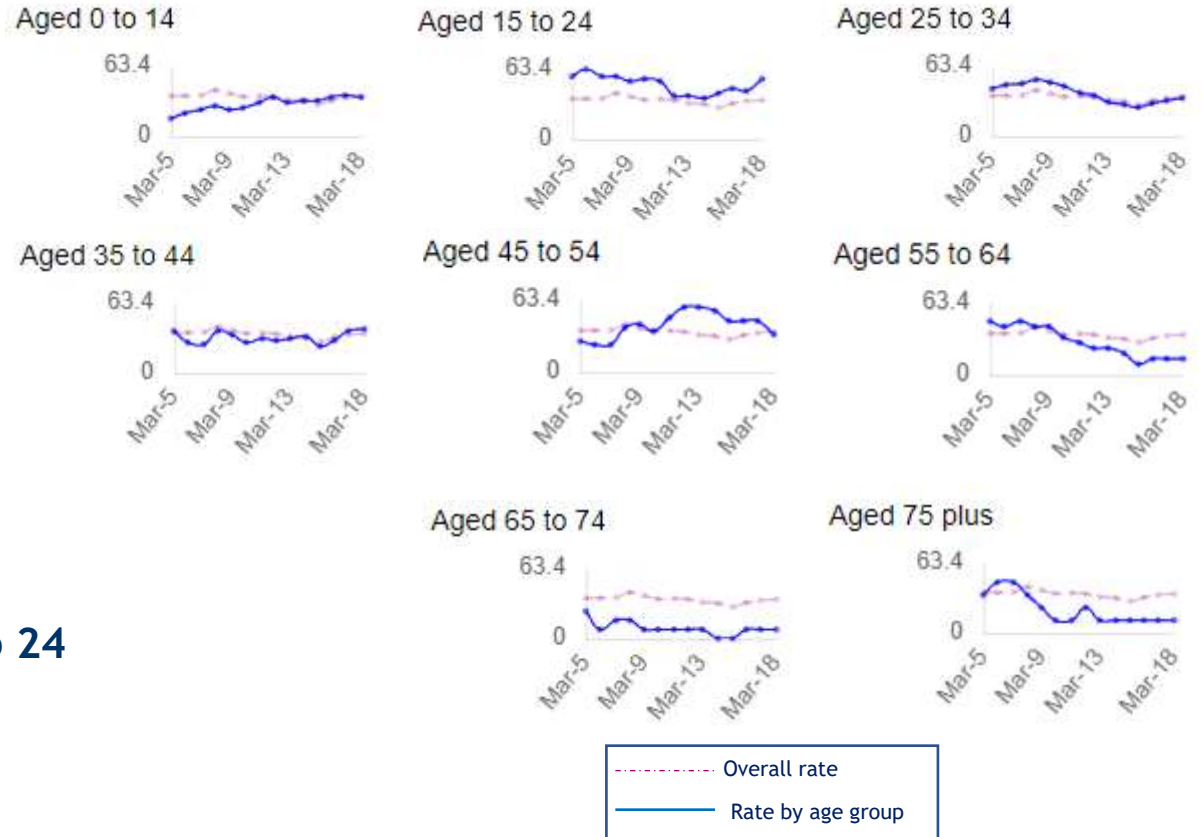
Source: Discovery Dashboard. Data extracted on 6th April.
 Figures may be subject to data lags .Population denominators are based on GP registered population.



The impact of vaccination...



Rolling weekly rates by age group over the past 14 days:



- Cases rates are currently **highest amongst those aged 15 to 24 year old**
- Rates are currently **increasing in the under 45 age groups**

Source: PHE Covid-19 Situational Awareness Explorer
Rates are based on ONS mid-year estimates for 2019.



Resident perspective on increasing uptake

- Positive media stories
 - Personal stories
 - Progress on rollout
- Easy access
 - More convenience
 - Pop ups, GP, pharmacy, walk in
- Factual information
 - Why vaccine is important
 - Hearing from trusted sources
- Inclusive advice and support
 - Available in community languages
 - Particularly for people with existing health conditions



Granby Hall community vaccination clinic
20th February

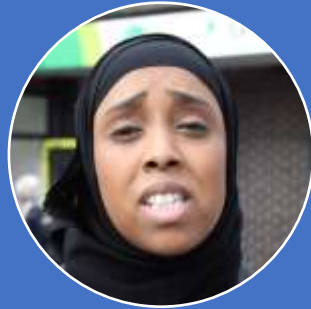


Approach to addressing uptake disparity



Helpline with booking

- Since 1st February
- Council call centre
- Information and booking



Coproduction

- 12 commissions with voluntary sector
- Bangladeshi, Somali, Disability, Faith, YP
- Small grants



Community clinics

- London Muslim Centre
- Somali Community Centre (Granby Hall)
- Programme of other settings



Vaccine roadshow

- Targeted
- Information and booking
- Aligned with pop ups
- Walk in?



Ramadan



- Consensus position
- Comms and Engagement
 - NEL CCG aligned and local comms
 - Weekly multiagency meeting with Barts
 - Imam workshop
 - Bangladeshi webinar on 8th April
- Clinics open through Ramadan
- Additional clinics in ELM and Granby Hall
- Roadshow focussing on Ramadan



Q&A FOR MUSLIM COMMUNITIES
FASTING & COVID VACCINATIONS

1 Can I take the Covid-19 vaccine whilst fasting?

Taking the Covid-19 vaccines currently licensed in the UK **does not invalidate the fast**, as per the opinion of Islamic scholars. Individuals should not delay their Covid vaccinations on the account of Ramadan.

Subcutaneous, subdermal, intramuscular, interosseous, or intra-articular injections for non-nutritional purposes whilst fasting do not invalidate the fast, regardless of the injected content entering the blood circulation. These routes are not classed as entry sites that would invalidate a fast.¹ Receiving the Covid-19 vaccine as an intramuscular injection, the only route for the vaccines currently available, therefore does not invalidate the fast.

2 What if I experience intolerable side effects?

Most side effects are mild, lasting a few hours, and self-limiting. However, should an individual become more unwell after receiving the vaccine then the general principles pertaining to illness and fasting apply. These have been described in detail,²⁻⁴ and outlined in the figure below which is adapted from the BIMA Rapid Ramadan Review &

<https://britishima.org/operation-vaccination/hub/statements/#FAST>



Thank you!

