

Issue 21 – 15 January 2021

## Latest news from Torbay and South Devon

We are sending you this update to keep you informed about Trust developments. Please feel free to share these updates amongst your networks. If you wish to unsubscribe, or you have been passed this update by someone else and you would like to subscribe please email: [communications.tsdf@nhs.net](mailto:communications.tsdf@nhs.net)

We are ensuring our website has the latest information on it so please do look there for the most up-to-date information [www.torbayandsouthdevon.nhs.uk](http://www.torbayandsouthdevon.nhs.uk). You can also keep up-to-date by following us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

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## Planning ahead for winter and COVID-19 surge

We want to assure local people that we have robust plans in place so that we can continue to provide good and safe care during the pandemic. As part of these plans we are working with colleagues across the Devon area to provide mutual support where needed. You will be aware that the Nightingale Hospital in Exeter is a key part of our plans and patients are also being cared for there too.

We want to pay tribute to all our staff who are working incredibly hard during this time.

Please do continue to attend appointments unless you are told otherwise. And please use NHS services wisely. If you do have an emergency, life threatening crisis call 999 or attend the Emergency Department, don't delay. But if you need help but it is not life threatening please call 111 first and you will receive expert help and advice.

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## Public engagement on the design of the Teignmouth Health and Wellbeing Centre

The Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Governing Body approved plans to modernise services in the Coastal Locality, following a formal public consultation in the autumn. The full paper that was considered by the Governing Body can be found on the [CCG website](#).

The new £8million Health and Wellbeing Centre is to be built by Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust on the Brunswick Street site in the heart of Teignmouth, and is due to open in 2022. It will house GPs from Teignmouth's largest

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practice, Channel View Medical Group, the health and wellbeing team and Volunteering in Health.



As part of the planning process, we are now running a two-week public engagement on the design of the building. Since we can't do this face-to-face, last Monday afternoon we launched a dedicated [website](#) which showcases the detailed design of the new centre so that people can find out more about the building, its location and the detailed design.

We also ran a live webinar Q&A session with our architects from 2pm - 3pm on Thursday 14 January. We will incorporate feedback into our planning submission. If you have any queries you would like to submit you may send these to: [comments@teignmouthhwbcdesignconsultation.co.uk](mailto:comments@teignmouthhwbcdesignconsultation.co.uk)

We will be taking comments via the website and email address until Thursday 21 January, and will be including people's feedback in the planning process.

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## Update on NHS COVID-19 vaccination programme

Torbay Hospital received its first batch of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine on Monday 4 January, and we are progressing well in vaccinating our Trust staff with their first dose of the vaccine. We are following the guidance issued by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) and are targeting staff who belong in the priority groups first. Therefore, while all Trust staff will be invited to have the vaccination over the coming weeks, staff who are clinically vulnerable or work in patient facing roles have been asked to book to receive their vaccine before other staff.

Front line social care staff employed by Torbay Council and Devon County Council, and staff employed by Devon Partnership Trust who are suitably located near to Torbay Hospital are to receive their first vaccinations from next week. We are also working closely with our CCG partners to identify other groups of smaller healthcare providers who will visit Torbay Hospital to receive their vaccine, for example, dentists, opticians, funeral directors, along with employees from the private healthcare sector. This is in line with the national guidance for hospital hubs.

The government changed the immunisation schedule to ensure as many people as possible received their first COVID-19 immunisation in order to protect the population. We will therefore be providing all second vaccination doses 11 – 12 weeks after the first, starting the end of March 2021.

If you are in a priority group and haven't yet been invited for a vaccination, please don't worry: the NHS is working through patient lists in priority order, as set out in the national guidance, and will make contact with everyone who is eligible in due course.

Local people are asked not to contact their general practice or hospital to ask about an appointment – the NHS will contact you when it's your turn.

## National lockdown

We are all now under the national lockdown rules, and are urging everyone to stay at home as far as possible. If you need to visit one of our healthcare facilities, please be vigilant in continuing to follow the hands, face, space guidance.

Full information on the lockdown restrictions is available on the [government website](#)

**STAY HOME  
PROTECT THE NHS  
SAVE LIVES**

The new COVID-19 variant is spreading fast.  
We all need to play our part to stop the spread.

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The image shows a healthcare worker in a white coat and mask attending to a patient in a hospital bed. The patient is wearing a face mask. The background is a warm, reddish-orange glow. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

## Keeping in touch with loved ones in hospital

We know just how important it is for friends and families to be able to keep in touch with a loved one whilst they are in hospital. Unfortunately, we have been unable to have normal visiting for much of this year due to needing to keep our patients and

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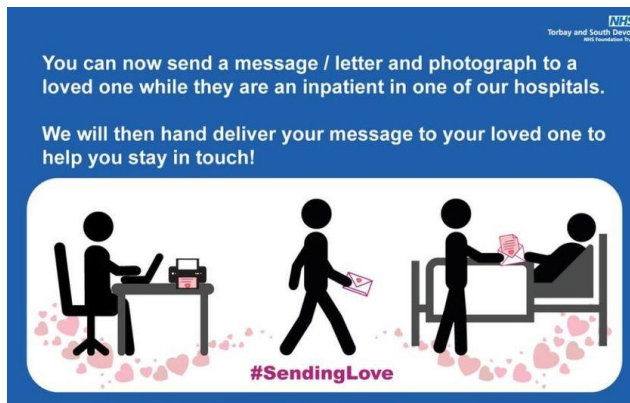
# Update

Helping people stay well, supporting those in need



Torbay and South Devon  
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staff safe during the pandemic. However, we have continued to support visiting on compassionate grounds, which can be organised directly with the ward. We have also been using a system known as 'Sending Love' for friends or family members to send patients message via our website, as well as enabling patients to see family or friends virtually, using the iPads that we have on every ward. If you would like to use this service to do this please contact the ward direct.



## Follow the Trust on social media

Click on the icons to view our social media profiles. Please follow us to receive our latest updates in your social media news feeds. You will find personal and professional stories from our staff, our patients and news about your local services.



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