






An update about the COVID 19 vaccine for people with learning disabilities

	<p>As you know, Learning Disability England has been taking action and campaigning for people with learning disabilities to be prioritised for the COVID 19 vaccine.</p>
	<p>On 27th November we wrote to Helen Whatley MP, the Minister for Care.</p> <p>And Learning Disability England coordinated and was co signatory to an Open Letter to the JCVI.</p>
	<p><u>You can find out more and read the letters here.</u></p>
	<p>We have not yet had a response to these letters.</p>
	<p>We feel it is important to keep the pressure on and to act quickly now that the vaccination programme has started.</p>



So today we have written to Professor Jonathan Van-Tam, the Deputy Chief Medical Officer.

We have asked him to take action and prioritise people with learning disabilities for vaccination.



[You can read the letter here](#)



We still need your help.



We ask you to write to your MP if you haven't done that already.



You can [use this easy read template from Speak Up](#) to help you to write your letter.



You can [find out who your MP is here](#).



We all need to carry on trying to get people with learning disabilities to be made a priority for the vaccine.



In January, we will be looking at how MPs have responded to your letters.



So if you have already written to your MP, please [fill in this short survey](#) to tell us what they said.



You can see the [resources from Public Health England about the roll out of the vaccine here](#).

People will be called for vaccination when it is their turn based on the priorities.



39 Essex Chambers have done a [briefing about mental capacity and the vaccine here](#)



This may be useful to you in helping people to think about decisions around vaccination.



The National Mental Capacity Forum will host a Rapid Response Webinar on **Friday 18th December between 1-2pm** to share knowledge and talk about good practice around consent for the new COVID vaccinations.



NHS England has shared the Standard Operating procedure for Covid vaccinations

This is aimed at organisations who will be involved in the roll out of vaccines at care homes. You can read it [here](#)



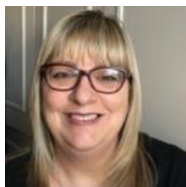
The webinar is free, but you will need to register for your place [here](#)



Learning Disability England will carry on trying to get people with a learning disability to be made a priority and we will update you again in the New Year.



In the meantime, we send you all Season's Greetings and hope you have a peaceful and enjoyable break.



Jordan, Wendy and Scott
Representative Body Co Chairs