

## BRIEFING - Vaccinations for NHS staff entering care homes

New government regulations will come into force on the **11<sup>th</sup> November 2021** requiring care home staff to refuse entry to anybody who cannot provide evidence that they have had two doses of an approved COVID-19 vaccine or that they come within a specified exemption.

This will mean that any VOY CCG members of staff, including students, who are required to enter care homes as part of their role will need to be able to demonstrate to care home staff, via the NHS COVID pass service, that they have been either fully vaccinated or are exempt from the requirements.

Staff that need to enter care homes as part of their role but have not yet had the COVID-19 vaccine would need to have their first dose no later than the **16<sup>th</sup> September 2021**.

Staff that have been fully vaccinated can demonstrate their vaccination status using the NHS COVID Pass service via the following three routes:

- The NHS App
- The NHS website – NHS.uk
- The NHS COVID Pass letter

***An individual's NHS appointment card cannot be used as proof of vaccination status.***

### **NHS App**

An individual's vaccination status can be found within the NHS COVID Pass service of the NHS App. The NHS App is available to download via the App Store and more information about the app and how to download it can be found via NHS App - NHS.

<https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-app/>.

### **Web-based solution**

The NHS COVID Pass can also be accessed via the NHS website. <https://covid-status.service.nhs.uk/>.

### **Non-digital solution: NHS COVID Pass letter**

An individual can get an NHS COVID Pass letter sent to them in the post, which shows that they have been vaccinated against COVID-19. They can do this by requesting a COVID Pass letter online via Get your NHS COVID Pass

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/covid-pass/get-your-covid-pass-letter/>. All that is required is your hospital number and a letter will be sent out as proof of your COVID status within 5 working days.

### **Exemptions**

There are a range of circumstances in which an exemption may be granted as follows:

- **People who have evidence of a medical exemption\***

*\*Medical exemption eligibility will reflect the Green Book on Immunisation against infectious disease (COVID-19: the green book, chapter 14a) and clinical advice from The Joint Committee of Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI).*