**Public Health Department**

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**NHS Fife**

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| Date | 11 January 2021 |
| Your Ref | |
| Our Ref | EC/cc/vaccination02 |

Dear (Employee)

**COVID-19 Vaccination for frontline health and social care staff in Fife**

As you provide personal and/or social care, you are being offered the COVID-19 vaccine.

**Why it's important to get your COVID-19 vaccine**
Getting your COVID-19 vaccination as soon as you can should protect you and may help to protect your family and those you care for.

**How does the vaccine work?**
The COVID-19 vaccine does not cause COVID-19. It helps to build up your immunity to the virus, so your body will fight it off more easily if it affects you. This can reduce your risk of developing COVID-19 or, if you do get COVID-19, it can make the symptoms milder.

The COVID-19 vaccine will be given in two doses.  You will be advised when to return for your second dose. The second dose completes the course and is likely to be important for longer-term protection. It is important to get both doses to protect yourself against COVID-19.

**Is the vaccine safe?**
NHS Scotland will only use a vaccine if it meets the required standards of safety and effectiveness.

**How to get your COVID-19 vaccine in Fife**
To arrange your vaccination appointment please telephone **01592 648048** between 8.30am and 5.30pm.  At the point of booking you will be required to provide your full name, address and date of birth.

You will then be offered an appointment at either:

Queen Margaret Hospital, Whitefield Road, Dunfermline KY12 0SU
Victoria Hospital, Victoria Road, Kirkcaldy, KY1 2SD
Randolph Wemyss Memorial Hospital, Wellesley Road, Buckhaven, KY8 1HU
St Andrews Community Hospital, Largo Road, St Andrews, KY16 8AR

Appointments are offered between 9am and 4.30pm.  .

**Further information**

You will be given a leaflet explaining more about the vaccine when you attend for your appointment. You may wish to consider wearing a short sleeve shirt/top to make getting the vaccine easier.

After you have been vaccinated you will be asked to stay in the vicinity of the clinic for approximately 15 minutes to ensure there are no adverse effects.

If you have further questions about the COVID-19 vaccine, visit www.nhsinform.scot/covid19vaccine or call **0800 030 8013** (available 8am–8pm, 7 days a week).

**After the vaccine**

It is not known whether having the vaccine stops you spreading the virus to others so it's important that we all continue to follow the latest government advice.

Thank you for your support. By getting your COVID vaccine and encouraging your colleagues to do the same, we can all do our part in making sure those in our care are safe and protected. The Covid-19 pandemic is an ever-changing situation, and advice and guidance may change as more evidence emerges. We will keep staff up to date as and when new information is available.

Yours

**Dr Esther Curnock**
Deputy Director of Public Health