

# Lambeth Together Strategic Board Public Forum

**Wednesday 23 March 2022**



## Questions from members of the Public

### Question from Gay Lee

My question was about the closure of Minnie Kidd House the NHS nursing home that has been closed.

We were made a promise that there would be some kind of public forum to discuss reactions to the use of Minnie Kidd house in the future. However it seems that after reading a set of minutes from a GSTT board meeting in November, the decision has already been made to close the site down completely and sell off unless a use could be found by Kings College Hospital. Is this why we have not yet received a date for the public forum.

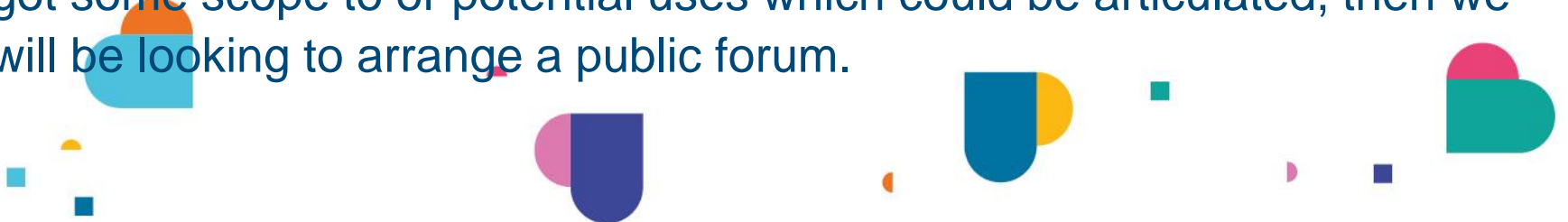


## Jane Bowie responded to this question.

In the first instance, absolutely, Sarah Austin and myself have been working closely, so if there's anything additional that I need to get confirmation from Sarah about us certainly will.

A decision has not yet been made by Guys and St Thomas' NHS Trust on the use of the Minnie Kidd House building.

There was a commitment made about having a public forum. The reason we haven't quite got a date for that yet is because GSTT is looking to actively explore what options are available for that site. GSTT are committed to see if there's anything that can be done and when they've got some scope to or potential uses which could be articulated, then we will be looking to arrange a public forum.



## Questions from members of the public

### Questions from Odilon Couzins

I recently asked at the vaccine bus whether people without NHS numbers and/or facing immigration issues and therefore unwilling to produce ID can be vaccinated. It seems the answer is "maybe", but I wanted to clarify this here because it's really important. What exactly is the rule and procedure, and can your team make sure staff at walk-in centres know them.



## **Andrew Eyres responded to this question**

Yes, you can have a vaccination if you do not have an NHS number. More importantly, as you point out, the key is to ensure that the people working at the sites that are offering vaccination understand that. So it's helpful to have that kind of feedback. We thought we had been very clear with all of our sites around the minimum information requirements. We will go back out and remind people that that remains the case. I think we thought we got the message out there, but clearly that's not the case in 100% cases. So we will go out and remind people.

**Further response:** Following the Public Forum, we have reminded staff on the Health and Wellbeing Bus about who is eligible for vaccination and shared with them and with community groups who've been supporting us to promote vaccine uptake a 'quick reference guide'.

This covers who is eligible for vaccination, how people can book and where to find walk-ins. This has also been shared with all Lambeth community pharmacies, in response to feedback from this Forum that some pharmacists seemed not to be aware of where the nearest walk-in service was if they were not offering vaccination themselves.

## **Garry Money also responded to this question**

Garry Money added confirmation that you absolutely do not need to be registered with a GP to have the vaccination or an NHS number or the need to provide any immigration status. Some of our sites, such as Montgomery Hall have had a consistent footfall everyday for more than a year of the people who are all of those things, but actually, as you clearly identified, perhaps not every single member of staff on every single access point is aware. Sometimes that's because staff change and we also have volunteers who are local people themselves, so absolutely well made point and we will go back around that.



## Questions from members of the public

### Questions from Odilon Couzins

Yesterday in my local pharmacy, an older woman was asking how to get her COVID vaccine. The reply was "get online and search for it", but this was obviously not going to happen. I got on my phone and gave her the relevant info, but I wonder if pharmacies could be provided with and/or required to share such information, as it seems like low hanging fruit that could help people like this woman get her vaccine.



## **Andrew Eyres responded to this question**

Best laid plans are not always reflected, every day, with every single member of staff across the health and care system. Our pharmacies played a fantastic role in vaccination in Lambeth, we have more pharmacies offering vaccinations than any other borough in South East London and in London as a whole. But as you say, not every pharmacy is offering vaccination. In a sense their answer is a right one because all of the information on all the sites is online, and as you found easily accessible. Obviously not everybody is comfortable going online, but part of the problem is keeping the information up to date. Our access points change and will be different for different cohorts of individuals, but we do our best to make sure that everyone in the system knows how to get the most up to date information about what's open, when, and for who. Again, I think your example is a good one and we will go back around the system and remind people how they can better signpost people to information and perhaps how to best help them, in the same way that you did, so thank you. ...con'td



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I think the second thing though is that particularly for the older cohorts, it's not always about them finding out whether the vaccines are available, our vaccine centres should be and are contacting them. So as new boosters and cohorts open up we do invite people in directly into book into our services. We are about to start the new booster campaign for over 75. So, from your description, this person might have fitted into that and it might be possible that that's what she's looking for.



## **Garry Money also responded to this question**

We have more than 60 community pharmacies in Lambeth, 13 of them are active vaccination sites. We probably have spent most of our time talking to those 13 and perhaps not necessarily keeping the rest of them up to date apart from more general communications across the whole borough. So, I think I think it's a good point made. We still have four general practice groupings, but they mainly working from two sites just to emphasise how it does change and not all of those sites are vaccinating 5 to 11 year olds, not all of them will be vaccinating in quite the same way over 75's, and they do not all offer walk ins so It's a recipe for having a leaflet, which is actually more harm than good by the time it has been sent out.

The Spring Booster campaign has officially begun. So for the over 75 group they should now be being called in by their GP practice if they are registered for what would be their fourth dose, So their second booster if that makes sense and it's it needs to be at least six months after their third dose. Cont'd...

...cont'd

So not everybody's eligible as of today, but they will be over the next couple of weeks . There is also another group of patients. So anyone who is over the age of 12 who's on immunosuppressive treatment is also now due there next dose. A lot of these patients will be under the care of the hospital so they may well be contacted by their hospital as well. So two offers.

We have also been updating the online presence so the main NHS landing page as well as our local pages do have the very latest map of where you can go which includes the locations of all walk ins available.

**Further response:** Following the Public Forum, we have produced and shared with all Lambeth community pharmacies a 'quick reference guide'.

This covers who is eligible for vaccination, how people can book and where to find walk-ins. We have suggested they might find space to display this in their shop. We have also shared this with staff on the Lambeth Health and Wellbeing Bus and with other community groups that have been supporting us to promote the vaccination.

# Questions from members of the public

## Question from Jan O'Malley

The Minister for Health, Edward Argar, announced on 17 March that the Charging Regulations will be amended to allow Ukrainian refugees full and free access to the NHS for 3 years. This shows how fast the Government can change policy for a particular group of migrants while leaving it in place for those with darker skins and from other parts of the world. Will Lambeth Together seize this opportunity to call on the Government to abolish all NHS charges.



## Helena McGinty responded to this question

All refugees and asylum seekers with an active application or appeal are fully entitled to free NHS care

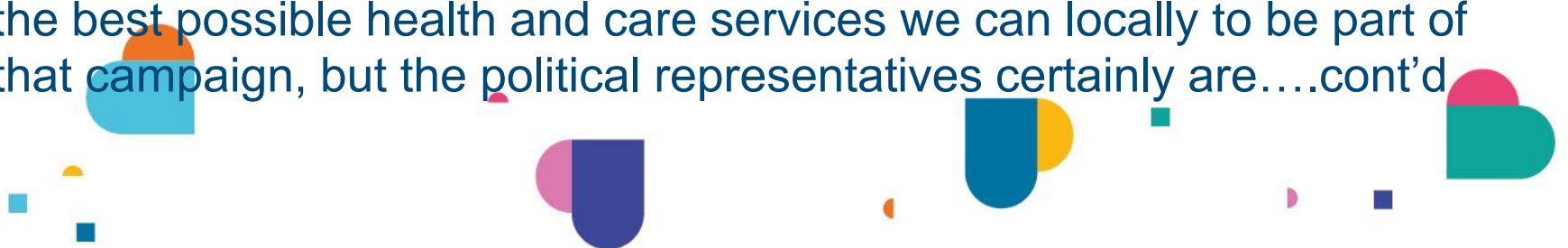
The announcement from the Minister of Health on 17 March, was to bring Ukrainians arriving in the UK due to the current crisis, in line with the above (eg fully entitled to free NHS care), due to the fact that they are arriving on visas as opposed to as asylum seekers or as part of a refugee resettlement scheme.

Lambeth has a commitment to resettle people from any eligible country through the UK Resettlement Scheme and non-Ukrainian applicants who cannot return to their country of origin should contact the Home Office regarding their eligibility. Lambeth is ready to welcome those arriving through the Homes for Ukraine scheme, as well as all refugees and asylum seekers, regardless of their country of birth and regard diversity in the borough as a strength.

## **Cllr Jim Dickson also responded to this question**

As joint Chair but also as a political representative for our borough, particularly speaking on health and social care issues. I am and my colleagues in Lambeth on the Council are on record many times making our view known that charging prohibits people using care and that is therefore wrong and we've communicated that view to ministers. We are in agreement with the patients, not passports campaign and the point of that campaign is to get rid of these charges.

It's not in our gift to make that change. Though I as a political representative am very happy to continue to make that view known and to work with others who also agree with that agenda. I don't think that Lambeth Together as a delivery body making health policy and delivering the best possible health and care services we can locally to be part of that campaign, but the political representatives certainly are....cont'd



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What Lambeth Together can do and is doing is to work with partners like Guys and St Thomas's in order to uncover the facts as to how the charging works, what it's possible perverse incentives and outcomes might be to give us a better understanding of the framework in which we're working, so that we can locally, if possible, have discretion to make changes notwithstanding, as everybody will realise, we work within a national framework which we are not able to countermand.



## Dr Adrian McLachlan also added

I think there are recognisably, numbers of people who do not understand that they are in fact eligible, so I think there's a task to make very clear the eligibility for all those who are eligible, as previously described. I think the other thing is to make active attempts to be more open and welcoming. A significant number of practices in Lambeth are signed up to be accredited Safe Surgeries which involves training at the practice so making the surgery welcome to all.





# Questions from members of the public

## Question from Anny Ma

It would be good to make clear what medical info be shared or whether there is a firewall between HS and the Home Office to people seeking care.

## Dr Adrian McLachlan responded to this question

The first thing I would say is that from general practice perspective, as general practitioners we are the data controller for the information we hold about our patients and therefore have a duty to keep that data safe and only share it appropriately with appropriate levels of consent.

Secondly, the work in supporting accommodation for refugees and asylum seekers the Home Office clearly plays a role in that, but I don't think that role should give the right to access medical data in my view, but I think there has also been, some painful historical sharing of data that has felt inappropriate.



LT Public Forum Feedback 23 March 22	Action
Share agendas in advance	LT LCP Board agendas are shared via LT website as soon as they're approved by the Board, no less than a week in advance of the meeting
Highlight accessibility support available	LT website updated to highlight support contacts
Share what being involved can do	All Question answers and feedback suggestion responses will be uploaded to the LT website for public view, and the LT Chair may share highlights at the next Public Forum
Use of local magazines and groups to share communications	We continuously review and expand our mailing lists across LT, CCG, and community networks, and welcome further suggestions
We might work through the Health & Wellbeing bus, or through NGOs that work with minority communities	We are focussed on building active links with local networks – currently the H&WB bus is key to our Country Show outreach planning
Host multiple sessions for people with differing workdays/availability	We're currently planning to 'hybridise' the Board and Public Forum meetings from July
Advertise/promote the forums through a diverse range of media appropriate to the various communities within Lambeth	We continuously review and expand our media networks and links, and welcome further suggestions
It would be nice if more people had their cameras on, including staff	The LT Chair will specifically ask in advance that Board members, staff and attendees to have their cameras on during the Public Forum if they can

**Actions**  
taken in  
response to  
feedback  
received from  
attendees at  
Lambeth  
Together  
Public Forum  
23 March  
2022

