

## Media Release

**Date: 17 January 2021**

### Successful first weekend for Vaccine Contact Centre

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The new system to book vaccination appointments went live at 8 am on Saturday 16 January 2021.

Thanks to a special delivery organised by Guernsey Post, the first batch of islanders in this 75 years and older vaccine cohort were able to begin to book their appointments over the weekend. These patients will be the first to receive their vaccinations in the new Community Vaccination Centre at Beau Sejour which will open on 25 January 2021.

Just over 400 letters were delivered on Saturday morning. The Contact Centre, which is open from 8 am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 8 am until 12 noon Saturday and Sunday, received a steady stream of calls over the weekend. In total, 128 individuals were booked in for their initial vaccination and their second dose 6 weeks later.

Toni Airley, Vaccine Contact Centre Manager said:

‘I am pleased we have now launched the Vaccine Contact Centre. This represents a significant step forward in our response to COVID-19.

The staff working over the weekend received calls from delighted islanders who were keen to receive the vaccine as soon as possible.

Callers were also keen to take the earliest available appointment and were clearly prioritising this over their other commitments.

We did hear from some who were apologising for contacting us over the weekend. There is no need to be concerned about bothering us, we are here 7 days a week to help.’

Letters for the remainder of the 75 years and over cohort will continue to be sent out in batches this week. We will then move down the prioritised cohorts as published here:

<https://covid19.gov.gg/guidance/vaccine>.

Those who have received their invitation letters and wish to make an appointment are encouraged to do so as soon as possible. Family members can make appointments on behalf of individuals in the cohort if that is easier.

**Ends**