

A message from Ruth Bushaway

Phew! We have reached the end of the work to deliver vaccine to Cohorts 1-9 in 4 of the vaccine sites. Debenham Community Centre, Ipswich Trinity Park, Haverhill Epicentre and Stowmarket "Mix" are no longer second homes to Federation Staff and all the volunteers who came forward to staff the sites. Words can't express how amazing everyone involved has been. I have seen at first hand how much of a team project this was and how so many people put in the extra to get vaccines into our populations, not just in our vaccine service but across the county. Thank you to all those who came forward and to the practices who helped us vaccinate their patients and staff.

Phase 2 continues in Woodbridge as requested by the Woodbridge and Debenham Practices and following the (ever changing!) national guidance and advice. Second doses are due to start again towards the end of July and I thank volunteers and practices for their continued support in staffing this provision.

If vaccinating 10s of thousands of people wasn't enough! We have also had our CQC inspection at the beginning of June. The report is available online <https://www.cqc.org.uk/location/1-287491271>, I could not be more proud of the team who managed the requests for information and prepared SO many reports at such a busy time. Achieving a GOOD rating at this difficult time is an indication of the great work that goes on day in day out in each service and the structures and governance that support this. Well done, everyone.

Demand in primary care is still higher than pre-covid and the pressure is really being felt in and out of hours and across our services. Fatigue is affecting many of us and I urge all of us to try and keep our colleagues and our own wellbeing in mind. The GP support hub is always happy to hear from GPs or practices who need help or signposting for help. Take your joy when you can, be kind and remember to breathe.

You may have missed seeing David Pannell over the last few weeks. David is enjoying his planned sabbatical. We look forward to welcoming him back in mid September.

Ruth

