

Draft Covid immunisation motion for consideration to be tabled at Council meetings

The motion could be put to local councils calling on them to administer the vaccine by local NHS bodies, using retired NHS staff and volunteers if necessary and specifically call on them to not employ private staff and calling on this Government to take this route and to fund it fully.

Proposed by xxxxxxxx, seconded by xxxxxxxx

- We note with concern that, so far in the COVID pandemic, the skills and resources of public health teams and local authorities, primary care and local NHS services have been bypassed, to the severe detriment of measures to control and suppress Covid19.
- Government decisions to place responsibility for testing and contact tracking and tracing largely in private hands has prevented safe and successful integration of these processes with the NHS, primary care, public health and local government.
- This approach must not be allowed to happen for the required national mass immunisation campaign taking place in 2021.
- We believe that the immunisation campaign embedded with primary care and public health teams, in cooperation with the NHS and local authorities, will greatly enhance public trust.
- There is a real danger of poor take up caused by lack of trust, poorly communicated information and untrained staff unable to answer the reasonable questions from members of the public.
- If this were to happen, there is a danger of anti-vaccination campaigners stepping in and gaining influence.
- A publicly-run campaign led by the NHS and local authorities will be more cost effective also, being built on decades of experience and founded on local knowledge up and down the country.
- This Council believes the only safe and effective way to administer the national immunisation programme is for full control of the programme to be passed to the NHS and local authorities, with the necessary funding to do the job properly. NHS England and Public Health England should provide the national leadership required to enable local delivery up and down the country, by providing any support necessary to ensure effective coordination.

This council calls on the Government:

- Not to repeat the mistakes that squandered billions of pounds of public money given to private companies to deliver what was misleadingly named 'NHS' Test & Trace. The poor performance and outcomes have contributed to the failure to contain COVID outbreaks and consequently to increased loss of life.
- To fully fund the NHS and public health and local government to administer and deliver the national immunisation programme for Covid 19.
- To give unequivocal leadership of the immunisation campaign to local NHS and local authority services, thereby allowing GPs, primary and public health teams to maintain the confidence of the public and save lives.
- Funding must include payment of the workforce employed by the NHS and local authority, not private companies, ensuring adequate training and governance of the additional workforce inevitably required to achieve this large-scale national immunisation programme.