

## Updates from Stockport Council 4<sup>th</sup> May

### COVID-19 vaccinations

Stockport Council have extended the pop-up vaccination clinic at One Stockport Hub, in the former Argos store in Merseyway to the end of May: Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 9.30am to 5pm, and Saturday, 9.30am to 3.30pm for eligible cohorts aged 12 plus. This is for the Covid 19 spring booster programme and anyone who has not yet had a first or second vaccination or booster. There's a particular focus on booster vaccines for [over 75s](#), and those aged 12 years and over who have a weakened immune system.

In addition, [children aged between 5 and 11](#) are also invited to get their first Covid vaccine at the One Stockport Hub from 9.30am to 3.30pm on Saturdays. No appointment is necessary. Also, 5 to 11 years olds can book a vaccination every Sunday, from 8 May, from 12pm to 6pm, at Trinity Methodist Church, 351 Bramhall Lane, Bramhall, SK3 8TP. Appointments must be booked in advance, as the clinic is not accepting walk-in appointments for children of this age, via the [national booking website](#), or call 119 free of charge.

If you can't make it to one of the pop-ups, GPs in Brinnington, Bramhall, Cheadle Hulme, Hazel Grove, High Lane, Marple and Reddish are inviting all their eligible patients aged 75+. Vaccinations are also being offered by some pharmacies and you can book your appointment via the [National Booking Service](#) or by calling 119. The appointment dates you'll be offered start from 3 months (91 days) after your previous dose but booking an appointment around 6 months after your previous dose is preferable to get maximum protection from a spring booster.

Walk-in and booked appointments clinic are also available at Trinity Methodist Church, 351 Bramhall Lane, SK3 8TP, from Tuesday to Saturday, 9am to 6pm, and every Sunday, 9am to 3pm.

Full details of places to get a vaccination in Stockport, including many options available without prior booking, are on the [CCG website](#).

### Three more libraries go Open+

Three more libraries have introduced Open +, allowing residents to use the library for extra hours each week, outside staffed hours. You can pick up reserved items, borrow and return books, or use the library computers and free Wi-Fi when it's more convenient. Visitors using the libraries in Open+ mode will find them brightly lit and welcoming, with the added reassurance of monitored CCTV coverage.

Following this newest expansion Open + is available across 12 libraries: Bramhall, Bredbury, Cheadle, Cheadle Hulme, Hazel Grove, Heatons, Heald Green, High Lane, Edgeley, Great Moor, Reddish and Marple. See your local library opening hours [here](#).

### Help with prescription costs

The cost of prescriptions may mean that people living with long term health conditions are not taking their medicines as prescribed by their health professional. This can lead to a deterioration in their health or the development of a related condition. Please share the following information across your networks and help us to raise awareness of how people may be able to reduce how much they pay.

### **Don't let the cost of prescriptions stop you taking your medication.**

You can use the NHS eligibility checker to check if you're eligible for free NHS prescriptions. You may find that you qualify for a medical exemption certificate if you have certain medical conditions.

If you're not entitled to free prescriptions you could save money with a **Prescription Prepayment Certificate**, also known as a PPC. This lets you get as many NHS prescriptions as you need for a set price. If you regularly pay prescription charges, a PPC could save you money.

If you're on a low income the **NHS Low Income Scheme** could help you pay for NHS prescription charges. Depending on your circumstance you can receive full help or partial help.

Find out more on the [Healthy Stockport website](#).

### **Steps to Work - requests for referrals and employers.**

'Steps to Work' is an employment support programme which offers a grant incentive of £4,500 to employers who can offer long term employment opportunities to vulnerable young people age 16 – 24 from the following priority groups:

- NEET young people/at risk of becoming NEET
- SEND young people and or with disabilities
- Care Leavers

If you have a young person who is looking for work and meets the above criteria, or you're looking to employ someone through this scheme, please contact Stockport Homes who have been commissioned to deliver the scheme. Email [maria.la.mattina@stockporthomes.org](mailto:maria.la.mattina@stockporthomes.org) or call on 07970 354894.

### **National Mental Health Awareness Week May 9-15**

The mental health team at Stockport Council are pulling together a list of events/activities to promote as a schedule. If you are planning any activities for Stockport residents (ideally free to join), please email [sam.fielding@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:sam.fielding@stockport.gov.uk)

[Ukrainian article on applying for school places](#)