

DATE: 18 May 2022

SUBJECT: Hunter New England Health COVID-19 vaccination program

Please attribute to a Hunter New England Health spokesperson:

We sincerely thank our staff for their significant contribution to the District's COVID-19 vaccination program, as it enters a new phase.

The high volume, large vaccination hub in Belmont was set up to meet the demand for mass vaccination. As demand has now decreased, there is no need for a clinic of this size and the Belmont hub will close on 1 July 2022.

A smaller clinic will operate from the Wallsend health campus, which will also focus on providing an outreach service for vulnerable and harder to reach communities and supporting local private providers. All bookings after 1 July will be at the new clinic at Wallsend.

As of 16 May 2022, the District has administered a total of 429,292 vaccinations, with 270,948 of those being provided at the Belmont mass vaccination hub to 231,618 adults and 39,330 children.

Overall, NSW had administered a total of 17,975,502 vaccinations as of 8 May 2022. Of these 28.2 per cent (5,068,310) were administered by NSW Health and 71.8 per cent (12,907,192) in other settings, such as GPs, pharmacists and aged care.

Vaccine providers, including GPs and pharmacists, will continue to provide free COVID-19 vaccinations to the broader community.

NSW Health has contingency plans in place if rapid upscaling is required to accommodate an additional booster dose or a new vaccine for a new variant of concern.

We would also like to continue to encourage the public to keep coming forward for their vaccinations to protect themselves, their loved ones and the community against COVID-19.

Appointments for COVID-19 vaccinations, including winter booster doses, can be made via the [Federal Government's COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Finder](#).

For the latest information about the COVID-19 Vaccination Program in NSW, visit the [NSW Government website](#).