

Alliance for Better Care

The
Strategy
Unit.



Overview

Reference: 27

Location: Crawley

Target Group: Harder-to-reach/vulnerable population

Initiative type: Mobile vaccination hub

Contact

Email:

allianceforbettercare@nhs.net

Website:

<https://abcltd.org.uk/>

Twitter:

[@AllianceBetter](https://twitter.com/AllianceBetter)

Top Tip

Listening closely to patients, understanding their concerns and pro-actively addressing them.

Why is this important to us?

Our objective has always been to provide everyone in our community access to a vaccine. This has meant understanding any barriers to accepting the vaccination and addressing them. We (GP Federation, Alliance for Better Care), launched a Covid-19 Mobile Vaccination Unit at the end of January in Crawley. The project, which is staffed by ABC's Community Team provides vaccinations to harder-to-reach and vulnerable groups in the local community. The ABC team partnered with Metrobus to create the unit.

What are we doing?

The mobile vaccination unit/bus can offer an alternative site for those who may be clinically vulnerable and hesitant to attend a vaccination centre, or who find it difficult to travel outside their neighbourhood. When the bus has been located on a site that is linked to a specific community group, we have encouraged the community figureheads to promote the initiative and increase engagement

The team uses local data to determine suitable sites located within geographical areas of low uptake. The bus is able to vaccinate up to 150 people a day. It continues to work with various local partners to assess where it is most needed.

Who is involved?

ABC partnered with Metrobus to create the unit. Since its launch, the team has worked with Local Practices, Local Authorities, Local Councils, Housing Trusts, Citizens Advice Bureau and networks of Community Groups and Community Ambassadors in order to reach homeless communities.

What works for us?

The secret to the success of this project has been the far-reaching community involvement. It's shown that GP Practices know their patients best and can be instrumental in identifying barriers and working with the most appropriate community groups to help mitigate concerns. The project has involved listening closely to patients, understanding their concerns and pro-actively addressing them. We've received really positive feedback from patients.

We are committed to sharing our learning with others. We have had other NHS Trusts and CCGs get in touch and we've happily shared our Standard Operating Procedure and Metrobus partner contact for those wishing to replicate the idea. We've connected with other services and projects too, including Project Move who aim to take clinical services direct to the public.