

Warning over COVID vaccination scams

Be on your guard against fraudulent text and email messages as new scams are being sent to patients.

People are receiving a text or email notification of their 'vaccination appointment' and are being asked to confirm it by clicking on a link.

This looks very similar to the genuine texts being sent to patients to arrange their appointments at the GP led vaccination services.

Please follow the advice below.

- The COVID-19 vaccination is ONLY available from the NHS and it is FREE – you will never be asked to pay for it or give your bank details.
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- If you receive a call you believe to be fraudulent, hang up.
- If you receive a text or email that you believe to be fraudulent please delete it. Please be assured that if you don't respond because you are worried and it is a genuine text or email, you will remain on the vaccination list and be contacted again.
- If you believe you have been the victim of fraud or identity theft you should report this directly to [Action Fraud](#) on 0300 123 2040. Where the victim is vulnerable, report it to Sussex Police [online](#) or by calling 101.

Guidance on official NHS texts

- An official NHS text message from your GP practice or the organisation arranging the appointments for your GP practice such as the local Primary Care Network will include their details such as the name of the Practice, group of Practices or the name of the Federation working on their behalf. It may also include details of the vaccination centre. Scam text messages and emails usually don't include this information
- An official NHS text message from the national booking system will be a reminder text so will include details of your booked appointment include date, time and location
If you have any further concerns about something you have received please contact the Sussex COVID-19 vaccination programme team
on sxccg.vaccineenquiries@nhs.net