

NHS update to:
Birmingham
COVID Engagement Board

- Rising demand for healthcare support continues, across all healthcare settings
- Increasing numbers of people being admitted to hospital with COVID and increasing number of people in ITU/ventilated beds
- Increasing numbers of people presenting with serious mental ill health
- Difficult decisions being made about stopping elective work, for all but those with serious health problems
- UHB and PCNs now starting to deliver COVID vaccination, prioritising >80s, care home residents and staff, and frontline NHS and social care staff first
- Managing public expectation about vaccine availability e.g. please wait until we contact you
- Work ongoing to engage BAME communities locally
- Sickness rates for health staff still high
- Additional appointments at primary care at GP Referral Centres ongoing, to support system pressures
- NHS 111 First now live for EDs and UTCs; communications campaign ongoing, with specific focus over Christmas and New Year
- Mental health support in place for the general public and key workers – 24/7 helpline
- Joined-up system (LRF) communications timetable over festive period in place.