

# Question and Response: FOI 0014 2026 – Covid vaccines

You requested the following information.

What date was the first covid vaccine administered in Northern Ireland?

What date was the guidance released for GPs on what to do with people who have a reaction to the Covid vaccine?

Provide copy of the guidance.

## RESPONSE

I refer to your request of 17th January 2026 under the above legislation regarding Covid-19 vaccines.

Having reviewed your requests, I can confirm that the Department of Health is engaging section 21 (1) of the Freedom Of Information Act 2000 – ‘Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information.’

This is because the information you have requested is available on the internet. However, in the interests of being helpful and transparent, I can advise the following:

### **What date was the first covid vaccine administered in Northern Ireland?**

In line with the rest of the UK, the first COVID-19 vaccine was administered in Northern Ireland on 8 December 2020.

### **What date was the guidance released for GPs on what to do with people who have a reaction to the Covid vaccine? Please provide copy of the guidance.**

All letters issued in relation to the COVID-19 vaccine can be accessed via the following webpage:

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/topics/hssmd-letters-and-urgent-communications>

The letters relating to the COVID-19 vaccination programme begin from December 2020 and continue through to 2025