

## Barnabas Patient Voices

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Subject: Barnabas Patient Voices Monthly Update, April  
Attachments: BPV\_Minutes\_20220316.pdf; BPV\_Governing\_Document\_2022.pdf; BB30.pdf; In\_Touch\_126.pdf; CQC\_March.pdf; Local\_Facilities\_202203.pdf

To All [Barnabas Patient Voices](#) Members ...  
[Printed copies to those members without email]  
[A copy will also be posted on our Facebook Group]

[If you can't read any of the attached documents, or want printed copies of anything mentioned, please contact me and I'll try to send you a copy.]

Welcome to the April update for [Barnabas Patient Voices](#) members. Apart from Covid, there doesn't seem to be a lot of news around this month.

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### Covid-19

This month's message is that **Covid is NOT over!**  
despite what the government are pretending and most people seem to believe.  
The infection rates are the highest recorded in the last two years, and the vaccination rate has stalled.

#### 02/04. Vaccination Status (% of total 12+ population)

	1 Dose	2 Doses	Booster
Ealing	70%	65%	44%
London	70%	65%	46%
England	92%	86%	67%
UK	92%	86%	68%

Data from UK Government: <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/details/>

**\*\* These numbers are now effectively static; none has increased more than 1% in the last month \*\***

**\*\* Remember too that if you're eligible for a booster but haven't had it, you're not fully protected \*\***

#### 02/04. Estimated Total UK Cases (millions) cf. 7 Days Earlier

31/03	4.499m	↑
24/03	3.863m	↑
17/03	2.940m	↑

Data from Zoe Covid Study: <https://covid.joinzoe.com/data>

#### 01/04. Estimated Positivity Rate (% testing positive) cf. 7 Days Earlier

Ealing	6.3%	1 in 16	↑
London	8.1%	1 in 12	↑
England	7.6%	1 in 13	↑

Data from ONS:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/articles/coronaviruscovid19latestinsights/infections>

Here are just a few recent news reports to back this up ...

- Why is the UK seeing near-record Covid cases? Because we still believe the three big myths about Omicron. <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2022/mar/30/uk-near-record-covid-cases-three-myths-omicron-pandemic>
- Why are so many people in England getting reinfected with Covid? <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/mar/31/why-are-so-many-people-in-england-getting-reinfected-with-covid-omicron>
- Covid experts call for return of free tests as UK cases hit new high. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/apr/01/covid-infections-at-all-time-high-in-england-ons-data-reveals>

- Covid vaccines give extra protection to those previously infected. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/mar/31/covid-vaccines-give-extra-protection-to-previously-infected-studies-show>
- Covid cases at Northwick Park Hospital 'down to dozens'. <https://www.thisislondon.co.uk/news/20012498.covid-cases-northwick-park-hospital-down-to-dozens/>  
[As so often that's a somewhat misleading headline but it does reflect that despite the high infection levels hospitalisations and deaths remain relatively low for the latest variants and due to vaccine-provided protection.]
- The claim that the NHS 'coped' with Covid is not true – it's drowning and damaged. <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2022/mar/23/nhs-covid-desperate-conditions>

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## Barnabas Patient Voices News

### March Meeting Minutes

The minutes of our meeting on 16/03 are attached.

### Next Full Meeting

Our next full group meeting is on **Wednesday 18 May at 13:30**.

This is our AGM, so it would be good if everyone could attend.

The agenda will include our Annual Report, which I will circulate with the full agenda and Zoom link in the May Update.

If there is anything you would like discussed, please let me know.

### Next Informal Calls

Our next two informal calls are on Monday 4 April, 16:00 and Wednesday 4 May, 18:00

The Zoom information for these calls is:

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7279594414?pwd=VmYwODdoWGg2eTFvTlVjVlZyRmhSQT09>

Meeting ID: 727 959 4414 Passcode: 149417

Do drop in for some chat and any recent stories and updates

### Governance Document

As you will see in the minutes, the March meeting approved our revised *Governance Document*. A copy is attached and also available on our website at [https://barnabasvoices.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/BPV\\_Governing\\_Document\\_2022.pdf](https://barnabasvoices.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/BPV_Governing_Document_2022.pdf).

### Local Facilities List

I have now also updated our *Local Facilities List*. This too is attached and on the website at [https://barnabasvoices.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Local\\_Facilities\\_202203.pdf](https://barnabasvoices.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Local_Facilities_202203.pdf).

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## Practice News

### Barnabas Bulletin

I'm pleased that we have at last been able to restart publication of the Practice's (redesigned) quarterly newsletter *Barnabas Bulletin*. I've attached a copy and you can also find it on our website at <https://barnabasvoices.org.uk/bb30/> or download it from <https://barnabasvoices.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/BB30.pdf>. However so far the Practice have not yet managed to load it on their own website – Duh!

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## Local Healthcare News

### Blood Tests at Wadham Gardens

Following discussion about blood tests at the last meeting (see the minutes), I called Greenford Green Clinic (aka. Wadham Gardens).

They tell me they now do blood tests on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings up to 13:40. However **tests have to be booked by your GP; there is no walk-in service**.

They're probably as booked up the Barnabas phlebotomist, but if Barnabas is fully booked this may be an option for anyone unable or unwilling to travel to Ealing Hospital.

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## General NHS & Healthcare News

### Public satisfaction with the NHS and Social Care in 2021

The King's Fund have written a comprehensive report on the results of the 2021 British Social Attitudes (BSA) survey questions on the NHS and social care. I've not yet fully digested the report but here are a few headlines:

- Overall satisfaction with the NHS fell to 36%, down 17 percentage points from 2020. This is the lowest level recorded since 1997. The fall was seen in all ages, income groups, sexes and supporters of different political parties.
- The main reasons given for dissatisfaction were waiting times for GP and hospital appointments, staff shortages, and the government not providing sufficient funding.
- Of those who were satisfied with the NHS the top reason was because the NHS is free at the point of use.
- Satisfaction with GP services fell to 38%, down 30 percentage points since 2019. This is 25 percentage points lower than the previous low (63%) recorded in 2018.
- Satisfaction with hospital inpatient services fell from 64% in 2019 to 41% in 2021 – the lowest level since the BSA survey began.
- Similarly, satisfaction with hospital outpatient services fell from 71% in 2019 to 49% in 2021 – again the lowest level since the BSA survey began.
- Satisfaction with accident and emergency (A&E) services also fell sharply from 54% to 39% per cent. Again the lowest level since 1999.

This is hardly good reading and, in my view, a reflection of (a) the stress Covid has put on the NHS as a whole and (b) the government's parsimonious attitude to funding and resourcing while expecting the existing services to do ever more. I'm at a loss to know how we can turn this round.

You can find a summary report, and a link to the full report, at <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/public-satisfaction-nhs-social-care-2021>.

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### Newsletters

Just two useful newsletters this month:

- CQC March 2022 – copy attached
- NHS In Touch #126 – copy also attached

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Don't forget that if you spot anything you think it would be useful to include here, or in *Barnabas Bulletin*, please drop me a note.

That's all for this month. Stay safe and have a good Easter, or a good Ramadan, according to your preference.

Keith

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Keith Marshall, Chairman, [Barnabas Patient Voices](http://barnabasvoices.org.uk)  
76 Ennismore Avenue, Greenford, UB6 0JW  
Phone: 020 8864 7993 – Mobile: 07847 149 417  
Email: [keith@barnabasvoices.org.uk](mailto:keith@barnabasvoices.org.uk) or [kcm@cix.co.uk](mailto:kcm@cix.co.uk)  
Web: <http://barnabasvoices.org.uk/>

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