

Prime Minister's statement on COVID-19 and update on UK's National Threat Level

Today (15 November), the Prime Minister gave an update on the UK's threat level and on the COVID-19 vaccination programme.

In his statement, he confirmed that following yesterday's incident in Liverpool, the Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre (JTAC) has today taken the decision to raise the UK National Threat Level from SUBSTANTIAL, meaning an attack is likely, to SEVERE, meaning an attack is highly likely.

He also added that the government has accepted the advice from the independent experts at the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) to extend the additional offer of a COVID-19 booster vaccine to people aged 40 and over and to offer a second dose of a vaccine to all young people aged 16 to 17 from 12 weeks after their first dose.

He reminded people to take up the offer if they are offered a booster COVID-19 vaccine and that the National Vaccination Booking Service will be updated to allow those eligible for a booster vaccine – people over 40 and those most at risk of COVID-19 – to pre-book their jab five months after their second dose.

He also highlighted the importance of ventilation, wearing masks in crowded indoor spaces and hand washing and confirmed that around 12.6 million people across the UK have had a COVID-19 booster vaccine, including around three-quarters of all people over 70 and 80 per cent of eligible older people in care homes in England