



**Andrew Rosindell M.P.**

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**The Rt. Hon. Matt Hancock M.P.**  
Secretary of State for Health & Social Care  
39 Victoria Street  
Westminster  
LONDON  
SW1H 0EU

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021

**Dear Matt**

**Distribution of Coronavirus Vaccines to Havering**

I am writing to you regarding the recent figures which NHS England have published on the rollout of the vaccine by region in England. It is good to see that the vaccine programme has overall been a broad success, with the United Kingdom leading the way, ahead of all of our European neighbours and almost every other country in the world. I applaud you and all the fantastic NHS staff, who have been working tirelessly to ensure that over 5 million of our fellow citizens have now received the protection they need against this virus.

However, I am concerned about the distribution of vaccines across England. I am sure you will agree that it would not be right or fair for any area to be left behind in terms of vaccine distribution. Everyone, no matter where they live, should have an equal opportunity to be vaccinated as soon as possible.

Unfortunately, data published today show that London is the worst performing part of the UK for vaccinations distributed. In addition, the data also show that the East London Health and Care Partnership, which includes my borough of Havering, is the worst performing part of London, having distributed only 77,117 vaccines. This is the case in absolute terms and in relative terms with just 1 in 26 people in East London receiving the vaccine so far. West London, with 1 in 23 vaccinated is the second worst.

As you may be aware, Havering has the highest proportion of over 65s of any borough in London, with 18.4% of the population over 65. This makes it imperative that Havering receives its fair share of vaccines. Since I wrote to you on this issue a few days ago, unfortunately, I have seen no evidence that we are receiving more vaccines, and I am concerned that it will take longer for everyone to be vaccinated in the top four priority groups. We cannot have this postcode lottery in the distribution of such an important vaccine.

Given much of East London is younger in profile, I urge you to publish borough-by-borough statistics, which will conclusively show whether Havering is getting the number of vaccines in proportion to its needs and its elderly population.

With every good wish.

Yours sincerely

**Andrew Rosindell M.P.**