

Report prepared by Angie Price – Town Clerk

**RECOMMENDATION FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

**FLU VACINATIONS**

**Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide members of the Finance, Policy & General Purposes Committee with a cost for flu jabs for staff, as a result of a request submitted to a meeting of the Resources Committee on 3 September 2020.

**Detailed Information**

At a meeting of the Resources Committee Members were requested to consider funding flu jabs for all staff and councillors not deemed eligible for the flu jab free of charge. A list of who is eligible for the flu jab is attached for Members information.

The Committee resolved that a recommendation be made to the Finance, Policy & General Purposes Committee with costings per person not exceeding £35.00.

**Financial Implications**

Following the meeting officers investigated the potential cost per person for the flu jab with the cheapest being £8 going up to £12.99.

There are currently four staff who do not qualify for the flu jab on the NHS and therefore the cost for staff should they wish to take up the offer if council agree to go forward, would be just under £52.00, plus any councillors who may wish to take it up.

**Recommendation**

That Members of the Finance, Policy & General Purposes Committee agree to offer the flu jab to all staff and councillors who do not meet the NHS criteria for free vaccination, at a cost of no more than £12.99 per person.

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## Getting the 2020 flu vaccine for free

This year, you can get the flu jab for free on the NHS, as long as one of the following applies:

- If you're on the shielded patient list (or a member of their household);
- You are aged 65 or over on 31 March 2021;
- You are pregnant;
- You are in primary school or Year 7;
- You are a health or social care worker employed by a registered residential care home, nursing home, hospice or homecare organisation;
- You suffer from a severe long-term health condition such as severe asthma or diabetes (consult with your doctor to find out if you're eligible);
- You care for someone whose welfare may be at risk if you fall ill.

If your child is over the age of six months and has a long-term health condition, or if they are between two to three years old on 31 August 2020, or in primary school or Year 7, they will be eligible for a free flu jab.

You'll also get a free flu jab if you're an NHS-employed frontline healthcare worker.

Once vaccination of the most 'at-risk' groups is underway, free flu jabs will be offered to those aged 50 to 64 – the NHS will contact those eligible directly.

You can get your jab at your GP surgery, a local pharmacy that offers the service or through your midwifery service if you are a pregnant woman.

Also, ask your employer as it's possible that they provide free flu jabs.

### Order medicines online with Chemist Direct

### Where to get a cheap flu jab

If you don't qualify for a free flu jab, you can pay a small fee to get the jab at certain pharmacies. Below shows where you can go and how much it will cost.

We've focused on the national outlets offering the flu vaccine although your local independent pharmacy may also offer it for less, so it's worth checking there as well.

You'll probably need a consultation with your pharmacist or GP before the jab is given, and you should wear a face mask.

If you're planning a walk-in appointment, it's worth calling the supermarket or pharmacy beforehand to check availability.

It's also worth making sure you're aware of any supermarket rules before you head out to make sure you're not denied entry.

<b>FINANCE, POLICY &amp; GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE</b>	<b>24 SEPTEMBER 2020</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 13(ii)</b>
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## **RECOMMENDATION FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

### **CHRISTMAS EVENT 2020**

#### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Finance, Policy & General Purposes Committee of a recommendation from the Environment & Leisure Committee in respect of the 2020 Christmas Event.

#### **Detailed Information**

At a meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee held on 17 September 2020 Members were advised of the outcome of a meeting of the Christmas Lights Working Party. At that meeting it had been agreed that in the light of the recent announcement by government in relation to gatherings and social distancing measures the Council would not hold a big Christmas Lights Switch-on event in 2020. However, it was agreed that they would have a Santa's Grotto with timed slots, to be held at Rachel's Ice Cream Parlour and it was agreed to make the following recommendations to the Finance, Policy & General Purposes Committee in relation to the Grotto and Christmas Tree.

1. That a RECOMMENDATION be submitted to the Finance, Policy & General Purposes Committee that funds to purchase the gifts for the Santa's Grotto be taken from the "Events" budget head in the 2020/21 budgets.
2. That a RECOMMENDATION be submitted to the Finance, Policy & General Purposes Committee that as the Council will not be holding an event for the Christmas Lights Switch on they purchase the Christmas Tree for Christmas 2020.

It is difficult to calculate the cost of the gifts required until the time slots for Santa's Grotto are filled, however officers would recommend that the Finance, Policy & General Purposes Committee agree to a sum not exceeding £1,000 be agreed for the purchase of the children's Christmas gifts.

Members will also need to consider the cost for each child to visit Santa's Grotto.

Officers have also obtained quotes for the cost of a 20 ft Christmas Tree, the most expensive of which is circa £500.00 supplied and delivered. In recent years, the Fire Brigade have erected and decorated the tree and officers would suggest that they approached to ask if they would be able to do this in 2020.

## **Recommendation**

Members of the Finance, Policy & General Purposes Committee are requested to give consideration to the above and agree to the following:

1. That a sum of no more than £1,000 be allocated from the "Events" budget to purchase gifts for children visiting the Santa's Grotto.
2. That Members agree a charge per child for Santa's Grotto.
3. That Members agree to the Town Council purchasing a Christmas Tree for 2020.



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