



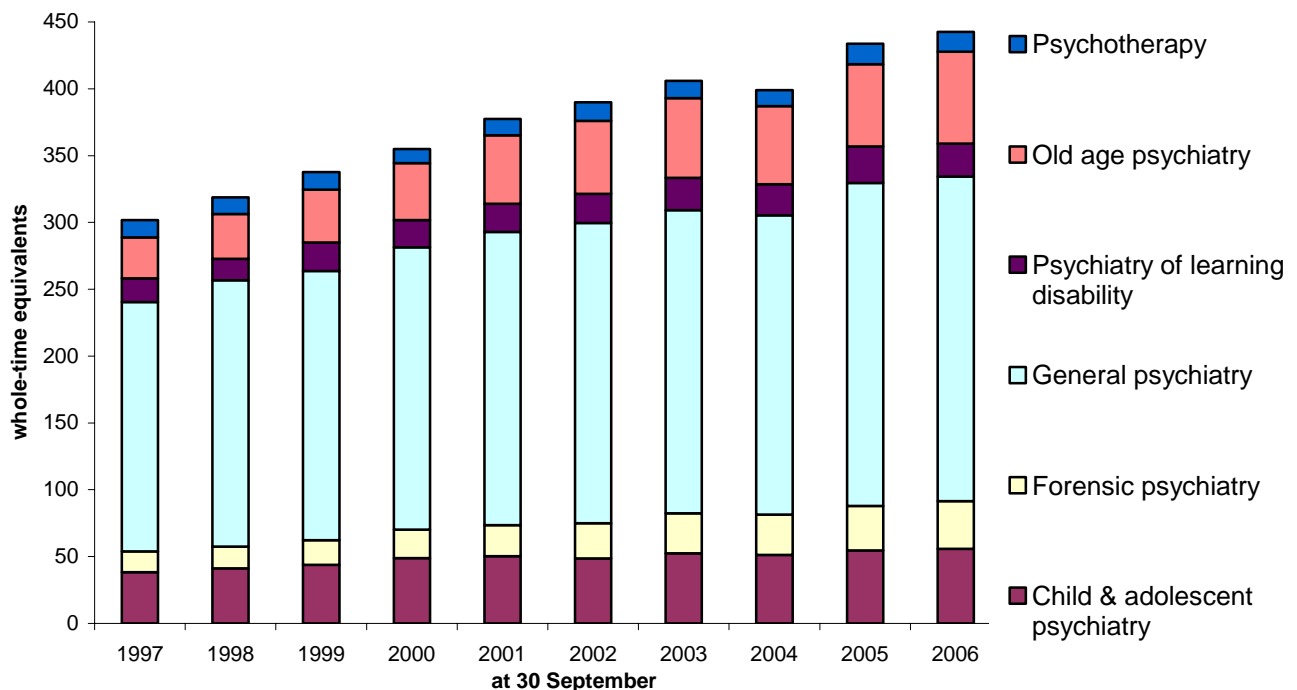
## Delivering our aims: review of programme structure

We continue to believe that better information allows better decisions to be taken and better care to be delivered. The programme is working to achieve this aim through a number of activities that are laid out at [our website](#). For more details contact [alastair.philp@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:alastair.philp@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk) or follow the [links](#) below.

Discussions are under way about some changes to the programme's activities and means of delivery. The way we plan to proceed will be announced shortly.

## Improving access to nationally consistent information: graph of the month

Whole-time equivalent of consultant psychiatrists<sup>1</sup> in NHS Scotland, by specialty, at 30th Sep 1997-2006



<sup>1</sup> includes all permanent paid and honorary contracts held by medical and dental staff in post in NHSScotland at the 30th September each year. Staff with locum appointments are excluded. The data are sourced from the annual medical and dental workforce census, and the annual census of consultant vacancies provided by all NHS Organisations. For more information on the NHS workforce, (including breakdowns by age, grade and geographical area) see <http://www.isdscotland.org/isd/1346.html>.

## Introducing national data standards

We are completing work on the reports of the projects that ran last year to test the [Information Core for Integrated Care \(ICIC\)](#) and the [Psychiatric Inpatient Clinical Discharge Summary Information Set \(PIC-DSIS\)](#). For more details on these reports and our future plans to introduce these to routine practice please contact [alastair.philp@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:alastair.philp@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk) or [Margaret.Mason@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:Margaret.Mason@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk).

## Revisions to current data streams

A group considering changes that may be required to update the national admission and discharge record (SMR04) held a second meeting. It is still our intention that, following a couple of additional meetings of this group, proposals will be circulated for comment later this year. For further details contact [themina.mohammed@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:themina.mohammed@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk).

## Supporting national policy developments

We have continued work in support of the measures laid out in [Delivering for Mental Health](#).

This includes further work on supplementary measures to provide context for the [readmissions target](#) and participation in a national working group developing indicators and methods to allow NHS boards and partners to benchmark amongst each other.