About this Release

This release is a collaborative piece of work between ISD and NHS Education for Scotland (NES), and presents Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) workforce information as at 31st March 2011.

Data are staff in post as at 31st March 2011.

The data are presented as figures in both Headcount numbers and Whole Time Equivalents (wte). Wtes adjust headcount staff figures to take account of part-time staff.

Key Points

- Data show that a headcount of 989 clinical staff (857.5wte) were working in CAMHS in Scotland as at 31st March 2011; this is an increase of 5.9% in staff in post since 30th Sept 2010.
- Nationally, this represents a staffing level of 16.4 wte clinical workers per 100,000 of the population of Scotland.
- NHSScotland CAMHS vary in the age of population served. In some areas services are provided up to age 16 only; while others offer services up to 18 years. This has significant implications for workforce requirements. Please see Table 2 in the full publication report for details.
- As at 31st March 2011, an additional headcount of 17.8 wte posts were between being advertised and being filled with start dates between 01/04/2011 and 01/10/2011. A further 4.3 wte posts were approved for recruitment but not yet advertised.

Background

The Scottish Needs Assessment Programme (SNAP) Report on Child and Adolescent Mental Health highlighted the importance of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and the need for development of these services within Scotland. In October 2005, the Scottish Executive (Government) published The Mental Health of Children and Young People: A Framework for Promotion, Prevention and Care which set the policy direction and a commitment to developing these services.
Delivery of good quality CAMH services depends on adequate numbers of well trained staff being available for career posts in services across NHSScotland. Data on the staff in post in NHSScotland CAMHS services have been reported since 2006.

CAMH Services vary across Scotland and the definition includes the following service types:
- Multi-disciplinary CAMHS, including clinical psychology
- Multi-disciplinary CAMHS, excluding clinical psychology
- Psychology services in Child Health/Paediatrics
- Island services – provided by two or three professionals

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Further Information
Further information can be found in the Full Publication Report or on the ISD website.

About ISD
Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up.
Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland - and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

About NES
NES are a Special Health Board, responsible for supporting NHS services delivered to the people of Scotland by developing and delivering education and training for those who work in NHSScotland.
NES helps to provide better patient care by providing educational solutions for workforce development. This is done by designing, commissioning, quality assuring and where appropriate providing education for NHSScotland staff.

Official Statistics
Information Services Division (ISD) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. ISD is designated by legislation as a producer of ‘Official Statistics’. Our official statistics publications are produced to a high professional standard and comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. The Code of Practice is produced and monitored by the UK Statistics Authority which is independent of Government. Under the Code of Practice, the format, content and timing of statistics publications are the responsibility of professional staff working within ISD.
Further information on ISD’s statistics, including compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, and on the UK Statistics Authority, is available on the ISD website.