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 on staff in post as at 31st December 2014.

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

Key Points

As at 31st December 2014:

- In 2009, the Scottish Government committed central funding to expand the CAMHS workforce of NHSScotland. This has resulted in a steady increase in the CAMHS workforce from 764.6 WTE (883 headcount) in 2009 to 942.4 WTE (1096 headcount) as at 31st December 2014.
- The most significant staff increases have been in Psychology (72% since 2009), and Nursing (22% since 2009).
- The headcount has remained relatively stable over the past year. There are currently 1096 clinical staff (942.4 WTE). Nationally, this represents a staffing level of 17.7 WTE clinical workers per 100,000 of the population of Scotland.
- An additional 48.8 WTE posts throughout NHS Scotland CAMHS were between being advertised and being filled. A further 11.2 WTE posts were approved for recruitment but not yet advertised.

Related publications

Information about CAMHS waiting times can be found here:
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.