Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services Workforce in NHSScotland
Quarter Ending 31 December 2016
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About this release

This publication is produced collaboratively by the Information Services Division (ISD) within National Services Scotland (NSS) and NHS Education for Scotland (NES). It presents information on the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) workforce staff in post as at 31 December 2016.

Figures are presented as headcount (actual numbers of staff) and whole time equivalent (WTE) which adjusts the figures to take account of part-time working.

Main Points

- Since this data collection began in 2006, there has been a 49.1% increase in the CAMHS workforce from 653.7 WTE (741 headcount) to 974.7 WTE (1,141 headcount) as at 31 December 2016. WTE and headcount have remained stable since March 2015.

Headcount and WTE of CAMHS staff in NHSScotland, 2006-2016.
Nationally, there is an average staffing level of 18.1 WTE clinical workers per 100,000 of the population of Scotland at 31 December 2016. An additional 100.3 WTE clinical workers in post would be required to reach the overall target of 20 WTE clinical workers per 100,000 of the total population, a target set by the Scottish Government in 2005/06 that was to be achieved by the end 2016.

At 31 December 2016, 26.0 WTE (2.6%) posts were vacant and in the process of being advertised. Including these posts, the CAMHS workforce would be 1,000.7 WTE, equivalent to a staffing level of 18.6 WTE clinical workers per 100,000 of Scotland’s population.

**Background**

The Scottish Needs Assessment Programme (SNAP) Report on Child and Adolescent Mental Health highlighted the importance of 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. Data on the staff in post in NHSScotland CAMHS have been reported since 2006.

CAMHS 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 [*Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services in NHSScotland Workforce Information report*](#). A [workbook containing data for this report](#) can also be downloaded. You may also be interested in the [*CAMHS waiting times data*](#), also published by ISD.

The next update of this publication will be in June 2017.

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