

Monthly Nurse Staffing Report: July 2014.

From June 2014 the Trust is required to provide data regarding nursing staffing levels on the Trust website. This information will also be available on the NHS Choices web site. The information in the table 2.1 is the first of the required submissions and will be followed each month with updated information.

What does the information in the table mean?

Nurse staffing within the Trust is generally in line with national benchmarks

There is a need for more staff in the High Dependency Unit (HDU) - which are currently being recruited.

Does this mean there are not enough staff looking after children?

The answer to this question is definitely **NO**

The information tells you where there needs to be more staff. What it doesn't tell you is that that the trust never leaves a shortage of staff without taking action to make sure that patient care is safe. We do this in a number of ways including moving staff between wards, carefully assessing the needs of patients being admitted and making sure that the staff are able to deliver safe care by not filling all the beds in the ward.

What is the Trust doing to make sure there isn't a shortage?

- Improving the nurse bank to make sure we have nurses available at short notice.
- Supporting staff who are sick to recover and return to work.
- Improving recruitment to make sure we don't have gaps when staff leave or go on maternity leave.
- We have created a pool of staff who fill short term vacancies
- Supporting business cases to increase the level of staffing in specialist departments.

Board Action

The Alder Hey Trust board has supported all of the developments above and is committed to ensuring that there are the right numbers of staff, with the right skills in the right place to deliver the best possible care for children at all times.

“The Trust has invested over a million pounds in the last year in additional nursing posts.” Gill Core, Director of Nursing. June 2014

