



## Time to care

Securing a future for the  
hospital workforce in the UK

February 2018

Deloitte Centre *for*  
**Health Solutions**

# Contents

Foreword	01
Executive summary	02
Key facts about the UK hospital workforce	04
The scale of the hospital workforce challenge	06
Addressing the immediate pressures facing the UK workforce	14
Securing the future of the hospital workforce	28
The future of health care	41
Contacts	43
Endnotes	44

## **Deloitte Centre for Health Solutions**

The Deloitte Centre for Health Solutions is the research arm of Deloitte LLP's health care and life sciences practices. Our goal is to identify emerging trends, challenges, opportunities and examples of Case, based on primary and secondary research and rigorous analysis.

The Centre's team of researchers seeks to be a trusted source of relevant, timely, and reliable insights that encourage collaboration across the health value chain, connecting the public and private sectors, health providers and purchasers, patients and suppliers. Our aim is to bring you unique perspectives to support you in the role you play in driving better health outcomes, sustaining a strong health economy and enhancing the reputation of our industry.



### Case study 14. Increasing flexibility of rostering to reduce rota gaps in emergency care: Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust

The Trust struggled to attract junior doctors to work in its Emergency Department (ED) and was losing all grades of staff due to the pressure from unsustainable rotas. This resulted in significant staffing gaps and high agency costs. The leadership of the ED responded by creating a new annualised rostering system, which provides safe staffing levels, meets the needs of individuals at different career levels and creates the flexibility to accommodate staff leave and project requirements. A key challenge was to find a functional, cost-effective and fit-for-purpose IT programme that would allow staff to plan their working time in a way that met the requirements for safe staffing cover. The clinicians in the department worked with IT developers at HealthRota on a system with sufficient flexibility to cope with the large variety of rosters for different career grades. Together, they devised a system to ensure the ED has 24/7 consultant cover and is an attractive place to work, despite being an extremely busy department.

For junior doctors the system provides:

- an annualised rota system that calculates a set number of clinical shifts that have to be worked over the year
- a new system for training posts, comprising 66 to 75 per cent of clinical work and 25 to 33 per cent for non-clinical projects in education, leadership, diagnostics and a clinical specialty of personal choice.<sup>75,76</sup>

Middle and senior grades are supported by:

- an annualised rota, self-managed by emergency doctors within the department. Each shift is worth a set number of professional activities (PAs), and each member of staff is contracted to do a set number of PAs over a period of time. The shifts needing cover are decided according to patient need, optimising cover and making optimal use of staff clinical time, while also allowing individual flexibility.

Outcomes of these measures include:

- a full rota of junior doctors and trainee doctors attracted back from abroad
- no further need for junior doctor locums, resulting in saving of over £1 million in costs annually
- a good work-life balance. In an internal survey, 81 per cent reported good work-life balance; 90 per cent believed the job allowed them to participate in quality improvement and innovation projects they would otherwise not have time for; 100 per cent said they would recommend the job to others.

The Trust now has more applicants for emergency medicine than posts available, highlighting its growing reputation as a good place to practice as an emergency doctor. For the August 2017 entry, there were 41 applicants for 25 posts, with a 100 per cent fill rate. The ED succeeded in increasing medical staff numbers by 21 clinical fellows and 9 registrars - a combination of filling unfilled posts and creating new posts. Self-rostering became a major factor in the retention and recruitment of senior clinicians, as it allows senior clinicians to combine work with family commitments or portfolio careers. This is particularly important for women, and in the last year the Trust appointed seven new full time equivalent (FTE) female consultants.<sup>77,78</sup>

# Contacts

## Authors

### Karen Taylor

#### Director

Centre for Health Solutions  
+44 20 7007 3680  
kartaylor@deloitte.co.uk

### Amen Sanghera

#### Analyst

Centre for Health Solutions  
+44 20 7007 4559  
asanghera@deloitte.co.uk

## Contacts

### Phil Lobb

#### Public Sector Health Lead

+44 20 7007 7098  
plobb@deloitte.co.uk

### Sara Siegel

#### Public Sector Health Partner

+44 20 7007 7098  
sarasiegel@deloitte.co.uk

### Pete Lock

#### Health Care Lead

Scotland  
+44 141 314 5808  
plock@deloitte.co.uk

### Ian Howse

#### Account lead

Wales  
+44 29 2026 4319  
ihowse@deloitte.co.uk

### Jackie Henry

#### Public Sector Lead

Northern Ireland  
+44 777 2555224  
jahenry@deloitte.co.uk

### Marie Doyle

#### Account Lead

Northern Ireland Health  
+28 9053 1397  
mdoyle@deloitte.co.uk

### Jane Halpin

#### Public Sector Health Care Clinical Lead

+44 20 7303 4924  
j.halpin@deloitte.co.uk

### Mike Hay

#### Public Sector Health Care Workforce Lead

+44 7980 288617  
mhay@deloitte.co.uk

## Acknowledgements

Special thanks to our Centre for Health Solutions Manager, Dr Mina Hinsch (April 2016 to January 2018), who was the main researcher for the European and UK research conducting the majority of interviews and analysis for, and drafting of, the report. Other important contributions were provided by Pratik Avhad, Deloitte UK Centre for Health Solutions and Natalie De Biasi, Deloitte UK

## Contact information

To see more publications from the Deloitte UK Centre for Health Solutions, please visit: [www.deloitte.co.uk/centreforhealthsolutions](http://www.deloitte.co.uk/centreforhealthsolutions)  
Deloitte UK Centre for Health Solutions, Stonecutter Court, 1 Stonecutter Street, London EC4A 4TR

# Endnotes

1. How does the NHS compare internationally? big election questions. The King's Fund, June 2017. See also: <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/articles/big-election-questions-nhs-international-comparisons>
2. Overview of the UK population: July 2017, Office for National Statistics, 2017. See also: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/articles/overviewoftheukpopulation/july2017>
3. Ibid
4. The four health systems of the UK: How do they compare? Bevan G, Karanikolos M, Exley J, Nolte E, Connolly S and Mays N (2014), Nuffield Trust and Health Foundation. See also: <https://www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk/files/2017-01/4-countries-summary-web-final.pdf>
5. Facing the Facts, Shaping the Future – draft health and care workforce strategy for England to 2027, Health Education England, 2017. See also: <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Facing%20the%20Facts%252c%20Shaping%20the%20Future%20%281%29.pdf>
6. NHS in Scotland, Audit Scotland, 2017. See also: [http://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/uploads/docs/report/2017/nr\\_171026\\_nhs\\_overview.pdf](http://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/uploads/docs/report/2017/nr_171026_nhs_overview.pdf)
7. House of Commons Health Committee The nursing workforce, Second Report of Session 2017–19. January 2018. See also <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmhealth/353/353.pdf>
8. A better future for the NHS Workforce, November 2017, NHS Providers, November 2017. See also: <http://nhsproviders.org/a-better-future-for-the-nhs-workforce>
9. NHS financial pressures How are they affecting patient care. March 2017. King's Fund. See also: [https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/sites/default/files/field/field\\_publication\\_file/Understanding%20NHS%20financial%20pressures%20-%20full%20report.pdf](https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/sites/default/files/field/field_publication_file/Understanding%20NHS%20financial%20pressures%20-%20full%20report.pdf)
10. NHS Vacancy Statistics England, February 2015 - March 2017, Provisional Experimental Statistics, NHS Digital, 2017. See also: <http://digital.nhs.uk/catalogue/PUB30033>
11. NHS Scotland Workforce Information, ISD Scotland, 2016. See also: <http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Workforce/Publications/data-tables.asp>
12. Facing the Facts, Shaping the Future – draft health and care workforce strategy for England to 2027, Health Education England, 2017. See also: <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Facing%20the%20Facts%252c%20Shaping%20the%20Future%20%281%29.pdf>
13. National Health and Social Care Workforce Plan, Scottish Government, 2017. See also: <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00521803.pdf>
14. Health and Wellbeing 2026 - Delivering Together, Department of Health Northern Ireland, 2017. See also: <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/health-and-wellbeing-2026-delivering-together>
15. Jenkins, D, NHS Wales Workforce Review, 2016. See also: <https://ruralhealthandcare.wales/resources/nhs-wales-workforce-review/>
16. Prospects for comparing European hospitals in terms of quality and safety: lessons from a comparative study in five countries, International Journal for Quality in Health Care. See also: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3557961/>
17. "Handbook on Health Workforce Planning Methodologies across EU countries", Joint Action Health Workforce Planning and Forecasting. Funded by the Health Programme of the European Union, 2015. See also: <http://healthworkforce.eu/archive/>
18. NHS financial pressures: How are they affecting patient care. March 2017. The King's Fund. See also: [https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/sites/default/files/field/field\\_publication\\_file/Understanding%20NHS%20financial%20pressures%20-%20full%20report.pdf](https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/sites/default/files/field/field_publication_file/Understanding%20NHS%20financial%20pressures%20-%20full%20report.pdf)
19. House of Commons Health Committee The nursing workforce, Second Report of Session 2017–19. January 2018. See also <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmhealth/353/353.pdf>
20. Time to care: Securing a future for the hospital workforce in Europe, Deloitte LLP, 2017. See also: <https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/uk/Documents/life-sciences-health-care/deloitte-uk-time-to-care-health-care-workforce.pdf>
21. NHS Hospital Bed Numbers, past, present, future, The King's Fund, 2017. See also: <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/nhs-hospital-bed-numbers>
22. Number of NHS nurses and health visitors falls for first time since 2013, The King's Fund, October 2017. See also: <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/press/press-releases/number-nhs-nurses-and-health-visitors-falls-first-time-2013>
23. Facing the Facts, Shaping the Future – draft health and care workforce strategy for England to 2027, Health Education England, 2017. See also: <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Facing%20the%20Facts%252c%20Shaping%20the%20Future%20%281%29.pdf>
24. Hospital bed numbers: past, present, future, The King's Fund, 2017. See also: <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/nhs-hospital-bed-numbers>
25. The NHS budget and how it has changed. The King's Fund, November 2017. See also: <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/projects/nhs-in-a-nutshell/nhs-budget>
26. When the price isn't right: how cuts in hospital payments added up to the NHS deficit. Gainsbury, S. Nuffield Trust, October 2017. See also: <https://www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk/news-item/when-the-price-isn-t-right-how-cuts-in-hospital-payments-added-up-to-the-nhs-deficit>
27. Agency rules. NHS Improvement, March 2016. See also: [https://improvement.nhs.uk/uploads/documents/agency\\_rules\\_\\_23\\_March\\_2016.pdf](https://improvement.nhs.uk/uploads/documents/agency_rules__23_March_2016.pdf)
28. With strings attached: taking a closer look at the new NHS money, Nuffield Trust, 2018: See also: <https://www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk/news-item/with-strings-attached-taking-a-closer-look-at-the-new-nhs-money>
29. Operational productivity and performance in English NHS acute hospitals: Unwarranted variations, Independent report for the Department of Health by Lord Carter of Coles, 2016. See also: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/499229/Operational\\_productivity\\_A.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/499229/Operational_productivity_A.pdf)

30. Health care Resources, Graduates, OECD, 2017. See also: [http://stats.oecd.org/index.aspx?DataSetCode=HEALTH\\_STAT#](http://stats.oecd.org/index.aspx?DataSetCode=HEALTH_STAT#)
31. Why we shouldn't panic about nursing yet, The King's Fund, 2017. See also: <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/blog/2017/07/why-we-shouldnt-panic-about-nursing-students-yet>
32. 2016 cycle applicant figures – October deadline, UCAS. see also: <https://www.ucas.com/corporate/news-and-key-documents/news/2016-cycle-applicant-figures-%E2%80%93-october-deadline>
33. Student Qualifiers and Staff data tables, HESA, 2018. See also: <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis/key-tables>
34. Previous versions, The state of medical education and practice in the UK, General Medical Council, 2017. See also: <https://www.gmc-uk.org/publications/29886.asp>
35. NHS staff from overseas: statistics House of Commons library October 2017. See also: <http://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/CBP-7783>
36. Language competency good practice for employers. NHS Employers, December 2017 See also: <http://www.nhsemployers.org/-/media/Employers/Publications/Language-competency-guidance.pdf>
37. Joint report from the negotiators of the European Union and the United Kingdom Government on progress during phase 1 of negotiations under Article 50 TEU on the United Kingdom's orderly withdrawal from the European Union. 8 December 2017. See also: [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/joint\\_report.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/joint_report.pdf)
38. Health workforce migration, OECD, 2017. See also: [http://stats.oecd.org/index.aspx?DataSetCode=HEALTH\\_STAT](http://stats.oecd.org/index.aspx?DataSetCode=HEALTH_STAT)
39. Nurses leave NHS for better life abroad, The Daily Mail. See also: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-67351/Nurses-leave-NHS-better-life-abroad.html>
40. Working for health and growth, WHO. See also: <http://www.who.int/hrh/com-heeg/reports/en/>
41. Global strategy on human resources for health: Workforce 2030, WHO, 2016. See also: [http://who.int/hrh/resources/pub\\_globstrathrh-2030/en/](http://who.int/hrh/resources/pub_globstrathrh-2030/en/)
42. Global health exchange, Health Education England, 2018. See also: <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/attracting-recruiting/international-office/global-health-exchange>
43. National Audit Office. <https://www.nao.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Managing-the-supply-of-NHS-clinical-staff-in-England.pdf>
44. Returning to NHS Scotland, NHS Scotland, 2018. See also: <http://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/education-and-training/by-discipline/nursing-and-midwifery/careers-and-recruitment/return-to-practice.aspx>
45. Return to Practice For Nurses, Midwives and Specialists Community Public Health Nurses, Shared Services Partnership, 2018. See also: <http://www.weds.wales.nhs.uk/return-to-practice-for-nurses-midwives-a>
46. Returning to Practice, NIPEC, 2018. See also: <http://www.nursingandmidwiferycareersni.hscni.net/returning-to-practice/>
47. Managing the supply of NHS clinical staff in England, 2016. See also: <https://www.nao.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Managing-the-supply-of-NHS-clinical-staff-in-England.pdf>
48. Number of NHS nurses and health visitors falls for first time since 2013, The King's Fund, October 2017. See also: <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/press/press-releases/number-nhs-nurses-and-health-visitors-falls-first-time-2013>
49. Nursing bears brunt of NHS clampdown on agency spending, Nursing Times, 2017. See also: <https://www.nursingtimes.net/news/workforce/nursing-bears-brunt-of-nhs-clampdown-on-agency-spending/7016070.article>
50. Time to care: Securing a future for the hospital workforce in Europe, Deloitte LLP, 2017. See also: <https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/uk/Documents/life-sciences-health-care/deloitte-uk-time-to-care-health-care-workforce.pdf>
51. Results for the 2016 NHS Staff Survey, See also: <http://www.nhsstaffsurveys.com/Page/1006/Latest-Results/2016-Results/>
52. NHS Scotland Staff Survey 2015 National Report, See also: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/12/5980/18>
53. NHS Wales Staff Survey 2016, See also: <http://www.cardiffandvaleuhb.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/documents/1143/7A4%20Cardiff%20and%20Vale%20University%20Local%20Health%20Board%20V2.0.pdf>
54. 2015 HSCNI Staff Survey, See also: <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/2015-hsc-staff-survey-regional-report>
55. See reference 51 for England staff satisfaction survey; See reference 53 for Wales's staff satisfaction survey; See reference 54 for Northern Ireland staff survey.
56. Frampton A, Fox F, et al., Using real-time, anonymous staff feedback to improve staff experience and engagement, British Medical Journal, 2017. See also: <http://bmjopenquality.bmj.com/content/6/1/u220946.w7041.full>
57. Happy app-roach to staff engagement wins HSJ award, University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation trust, 2016. See also: <http://www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/news/happy-app-roach-to-staff-engagement-wins-hsj-award/>
58. See reference 51 for England staff satisfaction survey; See Reference 52 for Scotland staff satisfaction survey; See reference 53 for Wales's staff satisfaction survey; See reference 54 for Northern Ireland staff survey.
59. Facing the Facts, Shaping the Future – draft health and care workforce strategy for England to 2027, Health Education England, 2017. See also: <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Facing%20the%20Facts%252c%20Shaping%20the%20Future%20%281%29.pdf>

60. Kyle, R., et al, Prevalence of overweight and obesity among nurses in Scotland: A cross-sectional study using the Scottish Health Survey, Journal of Nursing Studies, 2016. See also: [http://www.journalofnursingstudies.com/article/S0020-7489\(15\)00332-6/fulltext](http://www.journalofnursingstudies.com/article/S0020-7489(15)00332-6/fulltext)
61. Workplace Wellness, Yorkshire and Humber Academic Health Science Network, 2018. See also: <http://www.yhahsn.org.uk/service/embracing-change/workplace-wellness/>
62. Reward as part of an effective recruitment strategy, Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust, NHS Employers, 2017. See also: [http://www.nhsemployers.org/~media/Employers/Publications/Reward/NorthernDevonHealthcare\\_UsingRewardinRecruitment.pdf](http://www.nhsemployers.org/~media/Employers/Publications/Reward/NorthernDevonHealthcare_UsingRewardinRecruitment.pdf)
63. Operational productivity and performance in English NHS acute hospitals: Unwarranted variations, Independent report for the Department of Health by Lord Carter of Coles, 2016. See also: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/499229/Operational\\_productivity\\_A.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/499229/Operational_productivity_A.pdf)
64. Deloitte Centre for Health Solutions Research, 2018.
65. Clinical Fellowship programme, Royal Wolverhampton. See also: <http://www.royalwolverhampton.nhs.uk/work-with-us/clinical-fellowship-programme/>
66. Deloitte interviews and research, November 2017.
67. MDT-FIT. Green Cross Medical and the University of Surrey Clinical Informatics Research Group. See also: <https://www.mdtfit.co.uk/>
68. Lamb BW., et al, Development and evaluation of a checklist to support decision-making in cancer multidisciplinary team meetings, Annals of Surgical Oncology, 2012. See also: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22207050>
69. Deloitte Centre for Health Solutions Research, 2018.
70. Locum's Nest, 2018. See also: <https://locumsnest.co.uk/>
71. Developing people – Improving Care, NHS Improvement, 2016. See also: [https://improvement.nhs.uk/uploads/documents/Developing\\_People-Improving\\_Care-010216.pdf](https://improvement.nhs.uk/uploads/documents/Developing_People-Improving_Care-010216.pdf)
72. The 2020 Leadership programme, North East Hampshire and Farnham Clinical Commissioning Group, 2017. See also: <https://www.northeasthampshireandfarnhamccg.nhs.uk/about-the-ccg/happy-healthy-at-home/the-2020-leadership-programme>
73. Reducing time for employment checks by half, Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, NHS Employers, 2016. See also: <http://www.nhsemployers.org/~media/Employers/Publications/NUTH-case-study-final.pdf>
74. Deloitte Centre for Health Solutions Research, 2018.
75. Making EM sustainable: Can we make jobs and rostering work for us and our patients?, The Royal College of Emergency Medicine. See also: <https://www.rcem.ac.uk/docs/Annual%20Conference%202016%20Speaker%20Presentations/Making%20EM%20sustainable%20-%20Can%20we%20make%20jobs%20and%20rostering%20work%20for%20us%20and%20our%20patients%20-%20Rob%20Galloway.pdf>
76. Innovative emergency medicine clinical fellow posts to improve job satisfaction and training, NHS Improvement, 2017. See also: [https://improvement.nhs.uk/uploads/documents/Case\\_study.Brighton\\_ADUCs9n.pdf](https://improvement.nhs.uk/uploads/documents/Case_study.Brighton_ADUCs9n.pdf)
77. Self-Rostering and Annualised Hours (or How to Keep Everyone Happy All of the Time). St.Emlyn's, 2017. See also: <http://stemlynblog.org/self-rostering-annualised-hours-keep-everyone-happy-time-st-emlyn/>
78. HealthRota. See also: <https://healthrota.co.uk/>
79. Deloitte Centre for Health Solutions Research, 2018.
80. Deloitte Centre for Health Solutions Research, 2018.
81. Application of QR code to gain rapid access to medical device operator information, Academy of Fabulous Stuff. See also: <https://fabnhsstuff.net/2016/01/20/application-of-qr-codes-to-gain-rapid-access-to-medical-device-operator-information/>
82. The future awakens: Life Sciences and Health Care Predictions 2022, Deloitte LLP, 2017. See also: <https://www2.deloitte.com/uk/en/pages/life-sciences-and-healthcare/articles/healthcare-and-life-sciences-predictions.html>
83. Making IT Work: Harnessing the Power of Health Information Technology to Improve Care in England Report of the National Advisory Group on Health Information Technology in England Robert Wachter. Department of Health, September 2016. See also: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/using-information-technology-to-improve-the-nhs>





This publication has been written in general terms and we recommend that you obtain professional advice before acting or refraining from action on any of the contents of this publication. Deloitte LLP accepts no liability for any loss occasioned to any person acting or refraining from action as a result of any material in this publication.

Deloitte LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales with registered number OC303675 and its registered office at 2 New Street Square, London EC4A 3BZ, United Kingdom.

Deloitte LLP is the United Kingdom affiliate of Deloitte NWE LLP, a member firm of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, a UK private company limited by guarantee ("DTTL"). DTTL and each of its member firms are legally separate and independent entities. DTTL and Deloitte NWE LLP do not provide services to clients. Please see [www.deloitte.com/about](http://www.deloitte.com/about) to learn more about our global network of member firms.

© 2018 Deloitte LLP. All rights reserved.

Designed and produced by The Creative Studio at Deloitte, London. J14491