

## Item 8: Recruitment of nurses

By: Kay Goldsmith, Scrutiny Research Officer

To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 30 November 2022

Subject: The recruitment of nurses

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Summary: This report invites the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the information provided by the Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board.

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### 1) Introduction

- a) A committee member requested that HOSC scrutinise the recruitment of nurses. This falls under HOSC's remit to review and scrutinise matters relating to the operation of local health services.
- b) The Integrated Care Board (ICB) has produced the attached paper, which covers the acute provider Trusts (i.e. not primary care).

### 2) Useful Data

- a) The data below provides some background which may be useful to members in their scrutiny of nurse recruitment in Kent.
- b) Data relating to acute trusts and community healthcare providers (i.e. not GP Practices):
  - i. In June 2022, there were 356,346 individuals employed as nurses and health visitors by the NHS in England. This was 2.8% increase on the year before.<sup>1</sup>
  - ii. The full time equivalent (FTE) figure for nurses and health visitors in June 2022 was 319,481. This was a 3.0% increase from June 2021.<sup>2</sup>
  - iii. The number of people employed as nurses and health visitors in the South East (June 2022) was 47,833, with the FTE equivalent being 42,926.
  - iv. In June 2022, there were 8,764 individuals employed as nurses and health visitors across Kent and Medway. The table below provides a breakdown of these figures. The equivalent FTE figure is 7,978.
  - v. The number of vacancies (FTE) for registered nurses working in acute settings in the South East region was 4,009 as at June 2022. This was an increase on the year before (3,774).<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> NHS Digital (29 Sept 2022), NHS Workforce Statistics - June 2022, Table 1

<sup>2</sup> ibid

<sup>3</sup> NHS Digital (Sept 2022) NHS Vacancy statistics April 2015 – June 2022 – experimental statistics

## Item 8: Recruitment of nurses

- vi. The vacancy rate for nurses in acute settings in the South East region was 9.9% in June 2022, compared to 9.8% in June 2021 (these were experimental statistics).<sup>4</sup>
- vii. The number of nurses employed in each of the local hospital trusts and community health services (excluding GPs) is shown in the table below:

<b>Trust</b>	<b>Nurses and health visitors (headcount) June 22<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>Nurses and health visitors (FTE) June 22<sup>6</sup></b>
Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust	1,187	1,082
East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust	2,488	2,292
Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust	1,619	1,476
Medway NHS Foundation Trust	1,238	1,148
Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust (KCHFT)	1,266	1,083
Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care partnership Trust (KMPT)	911	845
Kent and Medway ICB	55	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,764</b>	<b>7,978</b>

*Nb. Figures for South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECamb) are not included as the Trust provides services across a larger geographical footprint than just Kent and Medway.*

### **3. Recommendation**

RECOMMENDED that the Committee consider and note the report.

## **Background Documents**

NHS Digital (29 Sept 2022), NHS Workforce Statistics - June 2022, <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/nhs-workforce-statistics/june-2022>

NHS Digital (1 Sept 2022), NHS Vacancy Statistics England April 2015 – June 2022 Experimental Statistics, <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/nhs-vacancies-survey/april-2015---june-2022-experimental-statistics>

<sup>4</sup> ibid

<sup>5</sup> NHS Digital (29 Sept 2022), NHS Workforce Statistics - June 2022, Table 2

<sup>6</sup> NHS Digital (29 Sept 2022), NHS Workforce Statistics - June 2022, Table 3

## Item 8: Recruitment of nurses

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