

Freedom of Information Request

1. How many staff are currently employed by the NHSCT as of 20/10/2020?
12,290 staff Excluding Bank Staff and those on Career Break as at 30 September 2020.

2. How many frontline healthcare workers are employed by the NHSCT as of 20/10/2020?
9,192 staff Excluding Bank Staff and those on Career Break as at 30 September 2020.

3. How many vacancies are currently open for frontline healthcare workers in the NHSCT as of 20/10/2020?

Admin	1
Nursing & Midwifery	250
Social Work	41
Prof & Tech Medical & Dental	116 26
<hr/> Total	<hr/> 434

(Nursing and midwifery vacancies relate to vacancies plus posts where there has been successful recruitment but staff has not progressed through full pre employment checks)

4. How many midwives are currently employed by the NHSCT as of 20/10/2020?
237 Midwives Band 6 to 8 as at 30 September 2020.

5. How many midwives are deployed to work in Antrim Area Hospital Delivery Suite as of 20/10/2020?

There are currently 52 midwives allocated to work in delivery suite

6. As of 20/10/2020, how many Antrim Area Hospital Delivery Suite midwives are absent from work through sickness or maternity leave? Please provide a breakdown for sickness, maternity leave or other e.g. self-isolation due to COVID-19.

There are 11 midwives (Band 7 and 6) currently absent from work

- 4 are on maternity leave
- 7 are on sick leave – with absence reasons including mental health, injury and back pain.

7. As of 20/10/2020, how many “bank shifts” are currently required per week to ensure staffing in Antrim Area Hospital Delivery Suite is at a safe and sustainable level?

This is a fluid situation depending on;

- workload and complexity of women
- Number of staff on annual leave

In relation to the number of bank shifts required the week 19/10/20- 26/10/20 there were 7 required

8. How many “bank shifts” were worked by midwives in Antrim Area Hospital Delivery Suite during both the calendar year 2019 and for the 2020 calendar year to date (20/10/2020)?

2019= 292 bank shifts

2020=347 bank shift

9. As of 20/10/2020, by how many full time equivalent members of staff is Antrim Area Hospital Delivery Suite understaffed?

Currently in delivery suite we have no permanent vacancies

10. As of 20/10/2020 and to your best estimate, how many unpaid hours have midwives worked at Antrim Area Hospital Delivery Suite for the calendar year 2019 and for the calendar year 2020 to date? For example, this may apply to midwives who have stayed after their finishing time to assist with a delivery / caesarean section.

This information is not recorded by the Trust.

11. As of 20/10/2020 and to your best estimate, how many rest breaks have either been missed or not taken in full by midwives in Antrim Area Hospital Delivery Suite for the calendar year 2019 and for the calendar year 2020 to date?

This information is not recorded by the Trust.

12. How many times during the calendar year 2019 and for the 2020 calendar year to date have staff had to make emergency appeals either via social media or directly to staff to come in to Antrim Area Hospital Delivery Suite to work a shift due to short-staffing?

Again this is information which is not recorded and difficult to quantify.

13. As of 20/10/2020, please provide the number of midwives from the NHSCT that have taken time off work due to stress. Please provide this information on a calendar year breakdown from 2009 to date, with figures for 2020 applicable up to and including 20/10/2020.

Job	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	1st Apr 20 - 30th Sep 20
MIDWIFE (5)						1	2		1			
MIDWIFE (6)	8	11	7	6	8	11	21	22	15	15	17	8
MIDWIFE (7)					1	1	1	1	1	1	2	4
Grand Total	8	11	7	6	9	13	24	23	17	16	19	12

14. Does the NHSCT Chief Executive, Head of Midwifery and Lead Midwife believe that staffing of midwives is at a safe and sustainable level? If not, what is being done to resolve this problem?

Midwifery staffing levels in NHSCT have been calculated via an established maternity workforce tool. There are no permanent vacancies in the delivery suite, therefore staffing levels are safe and sustainable. The impact of COVID-19 on staff absences in tandem with the unpredictable nature of labour and birth, can present challenges when activity peaks. On these occasions, senior midwifery managers utilise an escalation protocol to ensure the continued provision of safe services.