


Minister of State for Care
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Demand is increasing nationally for community and district nursing services, and we have been informed that there is a high demand for district nursing services in the Trafford locality.

The Trafford district nursing service operates clinical triage, to ensure patients are seen as timely as possible. The organisation is working to review the service specification with commissioners, to provide necessary assurance and response based on clinical need in the future.

A recruitment and retention strategy launched on 16th July by the Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust, with recruitment events held in April and May and July, aim to increase service capacity. Four posts have also been offered as part of the "guaranteed jobs" programme to newly qualified staff and staff turnover has improved from 20.9% June 2023 to 10.7% May 2024.

Service transformation across the Trafford locality has brought together care to support discharge and provide urgent community response services. The implementation of the new model has meant an increase in establishment in the team, allowing development of the crisis service to meet the 2-hour response national standard.

These changes have been important to support patient flow in and out of hospital but have not reduced the demand on district nursing services in the area which has seen an increase in referrals of 15% in 2023/24.

There are ongoing discussions between the Integrated Care Board, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust and Trafford Local Care Organisation (TLCO) in relation to the funding of the TLCO Community Services, recognising the capacity challenges.

I hope this response is helpful. Thank you again for bringing these concerns to my attention.

Yours sincerely,

