

1.3 Impact of COVID-19 on child health services in the UK

Like services across the NHS, child health services are currently under significant pressure due to the impact of the pandemic. We have [seen significant pressure on paediatric A&E departments](#) in recent weeks, due in part to a rise in respiratory infections usually seen in winter.

Paediatric beds are also under significant pressure due to the uptick in children and young people with serious mental health problems - [doubling compared to 2019](#). Additionally, [38% of respondents](#) said they did not have effective joint pathways with Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in their local area.

Additionally, paediatricians have been redeployed to adult services over the course of the pandemic. In the second peak of COVID-19 in January 2021, [13% of services reported paediatric consultants](#) were redeployed to adult serv8871 Tf1 O .82 Tsr.92 re

3.4 Duty on Secretary of State

The Health and Care Bill provided the opportunity to provide a long overdue solution to the workforce issue with our National Health Service. It is very disappointing that this opportunity has been missed. We note the call from [leading health organisations](#) for Health Education England to make projections of workforce demand and supply based on

5. Calls to Government

In order to guarantee the Health and Care Bill makes a substantive, positive contribution to ensuring all children get the best start in life, enjoy the best possible health, and child health outcomes are levelled up across the country, we are calling on Government to undertake the following actions as the Bill makes its way through committee stage:

Provide assurance that the statutory guidance accompanying the Health and Care Bill