



# **Rota vacancies and compliance survey 2009**

Findings of a survey carried out in November 2009

November 2009

## **Summary**

A survey of all clinical directors of acute paediatrics in England was conducted in November 2009 with a 72% response rate. Key findings:

- We estimate 123 consultant posts were created as a WTD solution in 2009. Only 82 of these include resident shift working and only 45.8 are estimated to be fully funded from the £50m DH funding.
- Units that say they are concerned that they will not be able to cope within six months. Almost 73% of respondents reported that they were concerned that their service will not be able to cope with the demands placed on it in the next six months.
- 44% of responding trusts reported that at least one of their middle grade rotas (general or neonatal) was non-compliant and 9% (10/111) reported that at least one junior rota was non-compliant.
- Over 55% (60/109) stated that although all rotas were compliant on paper; this was not the case in practice.
- 18.5% of those responding stated that the excess work undertaken by consultants has had an effect on planned patient care and over 42% said it had an impact on training of junior staff.
- The College's November survey and the 2009 census indicate that there are at least 180 training and 120 service vacancies in paediatrics in England.