

Supporting the COVID-19 response

Statement on Psychiatry Specialty Trainees

Health Education England (HEE) is committed to mitigating the impact of the NHS response to the COVID-19 pandemic on medical recruitment and specialty training as far as possible.

We continue to urgently work with the Royal Colleges to ensure disruption is minimised to what is absolutely necessary. However we understand there are increasing requirements and expectations on trainees and trainers to support NHS providers in managing the care of acutely ill patients.

HEE recognises mental health services are an essential part of the system-wide response to the pandemic. For trainees on core and higher psychiatry specialty training programmes, HEE has no plans to redeploy or rotate any trainees from their mental health placements.

Where NHS trusts require the support of foundation trainees, HEE will respond to these requests by working with mental health colleagues to agree appropriate release of foundation trainees from mental health placements which may include working across settings.