



Greater Manchester Weekly Winter Stakeholder Briefing

9th February 2024 – Issue 11

This weekly briefing is intended to update stakeholders on how services in Greater Manchester are performing and how we work together to manage demand and provide care and support to the public.

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Media statement

Mark Fisher, chief executive of NHS Greater Manchester

“While pressure has eased a little bit this week across our hospitals, we are still in winter, and expecting some colder weather to impact services. We would encourage people to look after themselves in bad weather by keeping warm, wearing layers, being careful when it’s wet and icy and looking out for loved ones.

“During periods of colder weather, it is important to check in on family, friends and relatives who may be more vulnerable to the colder temperatures that can have a serious impact on health. Keep in touch with them and ask if they need any practical help such as stocking up on food and medicine.

“If you need help urgently or you are worried about someone else’s health but aren’t sure about which service you need, NHS 111, either online or on the phone, will ensure you get the right care and treatment.”

Weekly narrative

We continue to be very busy across all services but pressures in the acute system have lifted a little this week. Primary care is facing increased demand. Weather warnings are in place, and we continue to monitor these to help reduce any impact on health and care services where possible.

Primary care data

There are approximately 1,800 primary care providers, with a workforce of around 22,000.

- ✚ Dentistry – of 233 practices reporting, 30% of dental practices are feeling a significant or very significant increase in demand, with a further 22% of practices facing extreme demand.
- ✚ General practice - of 275 practices reporting, 30% of GP practices are feeling a significant or very significant increase in demand, with a further 2% of practices facing extreme demand.
- ✚ Optometry - of 84 practices reporting, 7% of optical sites are feeling a significant or very significant increase in demand, with a further 2% of practices facing extreme demand.
- ✚ Pharmacy – of 120 pharmacies reporting, 25% of sites are feeling significantly challenged and 7% are feeling challenged but coping.

Note, work is underway to encourage more practices to use the pulse check so that support can be provided where appropriate.



Urgent and emergency care data

NHS England publish a weekly online report each Thursday showing verified data across provider organisations including all hospital trusts. You can access the latest urgent and emergency care 'sit rep' here: [Statistics » Urgent and Emergency Care Daily Situation Reports 2023-24 \(england.nhs.uk\)](https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/urgent-and-emergency-care-daily-situation-reports-2023-24/).

- ✚ For the week 29th January to 4th February 2024, there were 27,209 attendances; of which type 1 attendances were 19,298. Attendances are lower than the previous reporting period including for Type 1.
- ✚ Hospital bed occupancy across Greater Manchester acute trusts has been on average for the period 92.7%, with the peak at 93.4%.
- ✚ Paediatric services remain challenged and bed occupancy has seen a recent increase during this reporting period.
- ✚ Attendances at emergency departments for mental health conditions have remained stable however the system is significantly constrained by a lack of mental health bed capacity in Greater Manchester, as well as nationally.
- ✚ Ambulance activity has been high with 4,331 ambulances attending Greater Manchester hospitals which is higher than last reporting period.
- ✚ Definitions on types of attendance can be found using this [link](#).

Hospital discharge data

The discharge figures are a snapshot in time provided for the weekly brief to illustrate both demand and pressure. These figures will be shared weekly.

- ✚ There were 885 people medically fit for discharge from acute trusts as of 7th February.
- ✚ This week (1st February to 7th February) there were 736 admissions to hospital across Greater Manchester and 925 discharges.

Discharge data may reflect variation in average length of stay per bed and discharge location.

Useful information

- ✚ Important information about signs and symptoms of measles, getting a vaccine and what to do if you think someone you know may have it is available on our dedicated webpage: [Measles Don't let your child catch it | Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership \(gmintegratedcare.org.uk\)](https://www.gmintegratedcare.org.uk/measles-dont-let-your-child-catch-it).