

Women's Health
Maternity Unit

MATERNITY SERVICES LIAISON COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14 November 2005

Present:	Kerry Harris	Chair
	Alison Couzens	Diabetic Specialist Midwife
	Chris Nelson	Acting Community Midwifery Manager
	Gillian Smith	TAMBA
	Jabeen Qureshi	Health Link Worker
	Lenny Hide	Supervisor of Midwives
	Mary Bell	Consultant Midwife
	Natasha Wynne	Lay member
	Sandra Campbell	Health Visitor
	Theresa Spink	Acting Head of Midwifery
	Yvonne Geaves	Midwife
	Gail Soliman	Notetaker
Apologies:	Arash Bahmaie	Consultant Obstetrician
	Jane Pickett	Community Midwife
	Frances Harvey	Lay member
	Trisha Whisker	NCT

1 Minutes of the last meeting / Matters arising

The minutes of the meeting on 12 September 2005 were agreed.

- Theresa had met with the Parent Education coordinators with regard to encouraging support group contacts within antenatal classes.
- The new notes were brought in 10 days ago – although there were a few teething problems, initial feedback was positive.
- Healthroster – still problems with some of the rules – a meeting was scheduled in 2 weeks. The system did provide reports of sickness and study leave.

2 Privacy and Dignity

Yvonne presented the findings from the recent birth environment audit carried out by Kerry, Natasha and herself. This had shown an improvement on the audit in 2004 although there were still some areas requiring attention. The reception area was scored for the first time and came out low – inappropriate chairs too low for pregnant women being one of the issues raised.

3 Home from Home – Year 2

Mary presented the evaluation of the 2nd year of Home from Home. It was apparent that multips were more likely to ask for HfH while midwives knew that primips were more likely to be transferred. However the general use of the rooms had increased with births up from 109 to 164 for the year. In future the evaluation would be carried out on the calendar year to equate with other audits for maternity. Among the issues to consider are where do we go to now, and should 6 hour discharges be offered from these rooms which reduces their availability or the women are moved to another area. Any suggestions on the way forward to be raised at the next meeting.

4 Practice Development Unit

Theresa provided an update – accreditation for level 1 was scheduled for Tuesday 15 November with the supervisors from Leeds with us all day for presentations, discussions and walkrounds. This was a great achievement by the team of MCAs, nursery nurse and

housekeeper led by Sarah Peters and Emma Jenkyns. They will be asked to present to the next meeting.

To everyone's great delight Maternity were awarded level 1 accreditation – after a short period of assessment and followup, they plan to move forward to level 2.

5 Maternity at Ashford Hospital

The Trust/PCT group met recently. Hounslow will be leading the public engagement exercise with posters out in December and the first focus groups planned for January 2006. The question will be 'what do you ideally want for maternity across the whole region'. This will then be narrowed down to the environment.

6 Anti D

The new arrangements for Anti D started on 1 April. Anyone booking after that date would be offered Anti D if these were negative and most have taken it up. The service will be audited later in November for the first 6 months.

6 Any other business

- **Diabetes in Pregnancy** – CEMACH (Confidential Enquiry into Maternal and Child Health) have just published their report from a study of diabetes in pregnancy carried out in 2002-2003. Alison presented the key findings and distributed copies of the 17 standards of care, all of which were available at St Peter's. However instead of a separate preconception clinic, women were referred to Dr Newbold and were seen in one of her Gynae clinics. Alison said she was working on a leaflet to be distributed to GP surgeries and she liaised with Ann Lyddall, Paediatric Diabetic Specialist with regard to those under 18. She would be very keen to involve a user.
- **Maternity mapping** – the current process of child health mapping coordinated by Durham University for the Department of Health included a section on Maternity. This covered services offered, geographical area covered and staffing information – both midwifery and obstetric. Details will be brought to the next meeting.
- Gillian advised a new publication from Tamba 'Breastfeeding more than one'. There was also a new video.
- Sandra reported that there appeared to have been an increase in the number of Asian women breastfeeding.
- Mary gave details of a recent audit of the birth plans. Although there was one in each set of notes, only 38% had been filled in. We were looking to increase this to 60%. It was also necessary for confirmation that the plan had been read by the midwife caring for the woman during birth. The new notes required the midwife to note key points from the plan in the birth notes.
- A letter had been received from a woman who on asking for a home birth had been told that this might be difficult to arrange if there was more than one birth at any one time. Theresa said that with staffing now improved there should be no problems and we were hoping to increase our home birth numbers.
- Kerry advised of a birth support group she had been informed of in Woking run by Paula Windsor – she will ask her to contact Mary.
- At the next meeting issues for discussion through the year to be identified with priorities. This will include in what format the MSLC should continue.

Dates of meetings for 2006

16 January	13 March	15 May
10 July	18 September	13 November
Time	1300 – 1430	
Venue	Parent Education, Abbey Wing	

November 2005