

Women's Health
Maternity Unit

MATERNITY SERVICES LIAISON COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13 March 2006

Present:	Kerry Harris	Chair
	Chris Nelson	Acting Community Manager
	Frances Harvey	Lay member
	Jane Pickett	Community Midwife
	Kim McHarg	Infant Feeding Advisor
	Mary Bell	Consultant Midwife
	Sian Wicks	Clinical Governance Manager
	Theresa Spink	Acting Head of Midwifery
	Trisha Whisker	NCT
	Gail Soliman	Notetaker

Apologies:	Arash Bahmaie	Consultant Obstetrician
	Jabeen Qureshi	Health Link Worker
	Gillian Smith	TAMBA
	Sandra Campbell	Health Visitor
	Lenny Hide	Supervisor of Midwives
	Natasha Wynne	Lay member

1 Minutes of the last meeting / Matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

With regard to tours of the unit, booking stopped at the beginning of the year. They are now undertaken by staff working on the shift and averaged about 28 with more for the earlier time than the later.

2 Breastfeeding

Kerry said that feedback indicated that women were receiving differing advice. Theresa confirmed that the training was standardised but not included in mandatory sessions. There was poor attendance of staff at the breastfeeding workshops. She pointed out that it was not necessarily conflicting advice. If the first suggestion worked, the woman wouldn't ask again. If difficulties persisted or the woman asked again, staff assumed that the first suggestion hadn't been successful and gave differing but not inappropriate advice. Theresa agreed that staff need to be aware that the woman may just need the original advice reinforcing. Many women leave the ward before feeding is established and they fully understand what they may not know. They are given contacts with telephone numbers.

3 Postnatal care on Joan Booker

There were problems when the ward was busy and it was necessary to manage the expectation of postnatal care. With a well baby, there would be one check during the day – following that, the nursery nurse and MCA were available to help. Any midwifery problems would obviously be referred to a midwife. There were occasions when a woman had to stay in longer than necessary due to observation requirements on the baby. Theresa will discuss these issues with paediatric colleagues as this would help free up both staff and beds. The issue of drawn curtains remains. Midwife examination of the newborn is helping with discharge.

Another issue will affect the workload on Joan Booker. The PCT has agreed that all babies will be offered a BCG at birth by the end of the year. This will also have costing and training issues as will be given by midwives. However it will ensure that all babies who need a BCG will be covered where under the current system, some can be missed.

Theresa also wanted to draw attention to the fact that no beds on Joan Booker will be made up with blankets. Those made available to the woman on labour ward would be brought down with them. Obviously if it has become soiled, it would be replaced. She also said that we may look at the use of disposable pillowcases – it would then be suggested that women bring pillow cases in with them.

4 Any other business

- With regard to the recording of BCGs, Mary had spoken to paediatric colleagues. As the child health records were due to change, an allocated space will be requested.
- The annual report from the Local Supervising Authority will be sent with these minutes.
- Kerry raised concerns of the aims and use of the MSLC. Theresa confirmed that issues discussed at meetings were taken to other committees and groups within the unit eg staff meetings and SOMs. It was suggested that minutes could be made available on the web site – Gail to liaise with Mary.
- Visiting – Theresa advised that as from 1 April, maternity will standardise with the rest of the Trust and limit visiting to between 1400-1600 and 1800-2000, with the exception of partners and siblings. Flowers will be discouraged with the suggestion that these are sent home.
- The Trust has designated all buildings and grounds to be non-smoking areas. Notices will be displayed and staff will bring them to the attention of anyone seen smoking.
- Consent for Caesarean section – apart from the patient information leaflet, individual risks will be handwritten in notes following discussion.
- VBAC – the patient information leaflet will be backed up with individual guidance.

Dates of meetings for 2006

15 May
10 July
18 September
13 November

Time	1300 – 1430
Venue	Parent Education, Abbey Wing