

Women's Health
Maternity Unit

MATERNITY SERVICES LIAISON COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 17 July 2006

Present:	Theresa Spink	Acting Head of Midwifery
	Gillian Smith	TAMBA
	Jabeen Qureshi	Health Link Worker
	Natasha Wynne	Lay member
	Nicola North	Trainee NCT Teacher
	Sandra Campbell	Health Visitor
	Trisha Whisker	NCT
	Gail Soliman	Notetaker

Apologies:	Arash Bahmaie	Consultant Obstetrician
	Jane Pickett	Community Midwife
	Kerry Harris	Lay member
	Lenny Hide	Supervisor of Midwives
	Mary Bell	Consultant Midwife
	Frances Harvey	Lay member

1 Minutes of the last meeting / Matters arising

- A start date for BCG for all babies was still not settled. It requires a patient group direction (PGD – a document which shows that the Trust permits midwives to give prescription only medicines without medical practitioner prescription, where this benefits the 'patient' and in circumstances which are tightly defined), training for midwives, an information leaflet and process for consenting. Meanwhile it will continue to be given when requested.
- Access to midwives – some GPs display contact details that include those for the midwife providing care within their practice. Information on how to contact an independent midwife is available on the Trust website and www.preg.info – the website given in the pregnancy notes. It is planned to offer attendance at department bonus days to independent midwives working in our area to strengthen the relationship between the NHS and independent sectors.

2 Updates

- Hospital tours – working well on Saturday mornings though inconsistent numbers. It is a more effective use of staff with MAs rather than midwives giving the tours although a midwife is available to answer any specific queries. Feedback on the whole is positive.
- Incident with water supply – occurred when work in the plant room in the basement of Abbey wing caused a failure of water supply to the whole hospital. There was no water for 24 hours then a reduced supply for a further 24. Every department had been required to write a 'what if' plan earlier in the year which proved extremely useful. Bottle water was provided, alcohol wipes and baby wipes were made available.

3 Turnaround

- Due to the turnaround report and the restructuring of the organisation, the Associate Director of Maternity Services did not start at the end of June. Discussions were still ongoing with regard to the final structure. 99 members of staff had been identified as 'at risk'.

4 Summer plan

- The summer plan has been running since 25 June to manage the increased number of births over the summer period at a time which would coincide with a reduced availability of staff due to holidays and school break.
- Two birth rooms on Joan Booker staffed by community midwives on an early, late and night shift basis who would help on the ward if there were no clients. A reduction in parent education had been made to allow this extra cover.
- Births on Joan Booker were normal low risk multiples – however not many had been through. It may be busier in August. Feedback so far was positive.
- Triage was open between 0700 and 2130 also taking calls to labour ward during this time, the latter having made a marked difference on labour ward. Day assessment was running an appointment system which prevented long waits just for blood tests etc.
- The pilot handing out a questionnaire on labour ward had been completed but the results had not been audited.
- The unit was missing out on income where episodes of care were not recorded mainly due to the lack of clerical cover after 1700. Theresa was working on a business case to increase clerical assistance to ensure all work is captured.

5 Induction of labour

- This issue will be carried over to the next meeting.

6 Any other business

- Breast feeding – Sandra feedback on the experience of one mother. Theresa confirmed that it was part of MA training. Figures for 2003 and 2005 show a drop in breastfeeding numbers among Asian women with our area. Theresa commented that enhanced service for disadvantaged women was included in the NSF and that it might, in future, be possible to provide extra care for this group.
- Bronzefield Prison – session funding has been obtained for 1 midwife x 2 per week, 1 sonographer x 1 per week and 1 consultant x 1 per month to start in the autumn.
- Sandra commented on a delay in informing HVs of problems either diagnosed antenatally on scan or postnatally. Theresa said that there was no arrangement to phone information through to HVs.
- Multiples classes – Theresa confirmed that classes are continuing.
- Jabeen advised that she had a possible lay member – Theresa suggested that she speak to Kerry.

7 Items for the next agenda

- Turnaround and restructure
- Summer plan
- Induction of labour
- Feeding invite infant feeding advisors

November agenda

- Payment by results invite Karen Cridland

Dates of meetings for 2006

18 September

13 November

Time 1300 – 1430

Venue Parent Education, Abbey Wing