

Women's Health
Maternity Unit

MATERNITY SERVICES LIAISON COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18 September 2006

Present:	Kerry Harris	Chair
	Frances Harvey	Lay member
	Jabeen Qureshi	Health Link Worker
	Lenny Hide	Supervisor of Midwives
	Mary Bell	Consultant Midwife
	Natasha Wynne	Lay member
	Theresa Spink	Acting Head of Midwifery
	Gail Soliman	Notetaker

Apologies:	Arash Bahmaie	Consultant Obstetrician
	Trisha Whisker	NCT
	Gillian Smith	TAMBA
	Jane Pickett	Community Midwife
	Sandra Campbell	Health Visitor

1 Minutes of the last meeting / Matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

It would be helpful if Sandra/Jabeen could provide the data showing reduction in breastfeeding figures between 2003 and 2005. There were also concerns regarding information given about bottle feeding. Theresa said that the guideline for supplementary feeding has clear instruction on actions if baby does not breast feed and topping up. There is usually an observed feeding before discharge – however this may not be documented. Feeding and any problems are followed up by the community midwife at the last postnatal visit. Lennie said that the most common reason for increased postnatal visits is feeding problems.

SC/
JQ

Jabeen said that she would bring the new lay member, Ghazala Waheed to the November meeting.

JQ

2 Turnaround and restructure

Theresa confirmed that plans were underway to take effect from 1 October although the final appointments were still to be confirmed. The Associate Director Maternity would also be the Business Unit Service Manager and the position would be filled as soon as possible. The first issue to be addressed will be the structure of maternity.

3 Summer plan

The summer plan worked well and was well received by both women and staff. Data will now be collected – Theresa said that she was surprised at the low number of low risk multiples. Community midwives utilised their time well by arranging bookings and postnatals on the ward if there were no deliveries. It helped with triage sending straight to HfH on Joan Booker. It is unfortunate that triage will be closed as it has been very successful but after evaluation, a business case could be prepared to set up a permanent system.

The response from MAs on the postnatal clinics was very positive and they enjoyed the

greater responsibility and being able to organise their own workload.

A review meeting is scheduled for October and Theresa will report to the November meeting. We are already recording bookings of 377 for March so a decision will have to be made fairly quickly as to how we manage this period of high activity.

TS

4 Induction of labour

Mary is currently auditing induction of labour and presented her draft of the benchmark audit of clinical care against NICE guidance (2001). She will now be auditing data to inform service development and will bring the results to the November meeting. A possibility would be to have different pathways for complicated and uncomplicated and only to admit if staffing and activity levels are such that induction is ensured.

MB

5 Any other business

- Tours – Kerry raised the issue of numbers of people arriving for tours. Theresa said she had received an e-mail about problems with large numbers turning up at the weekend. It was also apparent that there were a large number of clinical questions which required midwifery input. She would be investigating why the increase in questions – was it due to the reduction in parent education over the summer. However she said that it was not an appropriate time to be asking this type of question. It was also difficult, with the increase in activity, for some or all types of rooms to be seen and the possibility of providing a virtual tour on the internet was being considered. Alongside this, Theresa confirmed that Rose and Naomi had done some work over the summer looking at the requirements for parent education bearing in mind that the NSF recommended that this service be targeted to those who particularly required help.
- Birth environment audit – Mary confirmed that the birth environment survey will be carried out by Yvonne Geaves, a community midwife who is the privacy and dignity lead for maternity, and the labour ward manager. It will be used as an audit of equipment and facilities available based on what was considered necessary and desirable from previous audits.
- Chairs on labour ward – Mary had carried out an audit with the assistance of partners, to identify which chairs were most appropriate for delivery rooms which will inform when next ordering replacements.
- Items for the next meeting
 - Evaluation of the summer plan and plans for March 2007
 - Restructure and its affect on maternity
 - Feeding – **please pass any particular queries to Gail by the end of October so that the infant feeding advisors can provide a response**
 - Induction of labour – results of further audit work by Mary
 - Results of birth environment audit
 - Payment by results – will have to be delayed – await the Associate Director of Midwifery and further clarification of categories

TS

MB

All

MB
MB

Dates of meeting for 2006

13 November

Dates of meetings for 2007

15 January	19 March
7 May	9 July
17 September	12 November

Time 1300 – 1430

Venue Parent Education, Abbey Wing