

Draft Minutes of the Maternity Services Liaison Committee meeting held on 3rd June 2021 via Microsoft Teams.

In Attendance:

Mathilde Peace	(Chair) Lay Representative
Lyndsay Baird	Committee Administrator
Sarah Denniston	La Leche League
Zoe Brown	NCT Breastfeeding Project Coordinator
Kat Prangle	Breastfeeding Peer Support Facilitator
Liz Foster	NCT
Alison Hagan	NCT
Nicola Welsh	Held in our Hearts
Sau Mei Fong	Chinese Link worker MEHIS
Francesca Dymond	Pregnancy and Parents Centre
Sophie Orton	Lay member
Julia Iddir	Lay member
Emma Westall	Charge Midwife (ward 119 RIE)
Catriona Grainger	Charge Midwife (ward 211 RIE)
Charlotte Scott	Consultant Anaesthetist
Jacquelyn Imrie	Infant Feeding Lead, NHS Lothian
Lucy Harkins	Infant Feeding Advisor
Andie Hewitt	Parent Education Coordinator
Emma Campbell	Acting Community Midwifery Clinical Manager
Maria Wood	Best Start Team Leader
Heather Blaikie	Community midwife
Lynn Brown	Community midwife
Carrie McIntosh	Community midwife
Jennifer Clunie	Community midwife
Linda Coull	Community midwife
Susan Polland	Charge midwife, St John's Hospital
Fiona McDowall	Community midwife
Lesley Scott	Community midwife
Rosetta Walker	Community midwife
Jillian Mackie	Family Nurse Partnership
Tracy McGillivray	Team Leader, Health Promotion
Garry Luke	Best Start Implementation Manager
Karen Ormiston	Assistant Programme Manager
Connie McLuckie	Edinburgh Napier University

Guests in attendance:

Emma Doubal	Lothian Intrapartum Lead
Sharon Gilchrist	Project Midwife
Caroline Buchan	Project Midwife

Elizabeth Bream
Lana Cathro

Quality Improvement Programme Board
Scottish Maternity Network / Voices

Apologies: Justine Craig, Lynn Rose, Donna Swinney, Hanan Mustafa, Elaine Turnbull, Carolyn Worlock, Tess Welsh.

Welcome and Introductions

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members attending for the first time: Maria Wood, Best Start Team Leader; Lucy Harkins, IFA; Julia Iddir, lay member; Sophie Orton, lay member.

Mathilde Peace also gave a warm welcome to the 10 midwives and Team Leaders attending the meeting. The MSLC is very grateful for their interest and input.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

1.1 The minutes of the meeting on 1st April 2021 were accepted as an accurate record.

2. Running Action Note

2.1 Online Survey Tool - NHS Lothian have signed a new contract with JISC (Joint Information Systems Committee), a not-for-profit network and IT services provider, which includes an online survey tool. Mathilde Peace has approached Justine Craig to ask for designated admin users in maternity services to be appointed.

Microsoft Forms could also be an option for online surveys.

Carried over to 26 August meeting. Justine Craig

2.2 Baby Feeding Journal –

The project is making progress. Next step is to do a test of change.

2.3 Better Birth Group RIE - Amanda Paton is the new lead. **Mathilde Peace has been in touch to ensure MSLC lay members are included in the future meetings.**

2.4 Social Media

The short-life working group is making good progress. A maternity and neonatal social media policy is being developed.

2.5 Homebirth Team

Recruitment to the team has started.

2.6 Birth satisfaction Scale

Discussion carried over to 26 August meeting. Justine Craig

3. **Any Other Matters**

There were no other matters arising.

4. **Infant Feeding Focus**

4.1 **Delivering Early Breastfeeding Support** –

Caroline Buchan and Sharon Gilchrist, Project Midwives, West Lothian

Please see attached slides.

Caroline Buchan and Sharon Gilchrist gave a detailed presentation on this project which is part of the Programme for Government initiative. The early results are showing a remarkable impact with a notable increase in mothers continuing to breastfeed for a longer period of time. Feedback from women and staff is very positive.

The pilot will end in August, but it is hoped that this kind of support could be rolled out to other areas of Lothian which could benefit most from it.

Mathilde Peace thanked Caroline Buchan and Sharon Gilchrist for sharing their work on this project.

4.2 **Third Sector Update**

4.2.1 **“Thank you” to Infant Feeding Advisors**

Zoe Brown spoke on behalf of her colleagues from the Third Sector and explained how they had been able to work closely with NHS Lothian IFAs during last year. This united approach meant that women continued to be well supported and the sharing of guidelines and resources ensured consistency of advice.

4.2.2 **Issues reported by mothers**

Zoe Brown said that women reported issues around advice for positioning and attachment. Women seemed unaware of laid back feeding and reported baby being manipulated onto the breast instead of the recommended ‘hands off’ approach.

Jacquelyn Imrie thanked Zoe Brown for this feedback and said she would promptly address these issues.

4.2.3 Peer Support on RIE Postnatal ward

This has started and is going well.

4.2.4 Less visibility of breastfeeding in the community

Covid restrictions have had a notable impact. It is hoped that with their easing and the reopening of breastfeeding-friendly businesses more mothers will be out and about.

Lucy Harkins will follow this up with the Breastfeeding Friendly award and the Culture and Advocacy group of the Scottish government.

4.2.5 Long-term plan for community support groups

At present, the Third Sector are providing online groups several times a week, Breastfeeding Beyond Babyhood groups, Walk and Talk sessions and will start reopening their in-person groups in June. They also deliver one-to-one advice and a library service.

There are issues with some venues which are currently closed and questions about whether they will be available again.

Lucy Harkins said that NHS Lothian use the Near-Me service for individual support of women and staff. They used to have 5 to 6 weekly groups in the community but are awaiting directions from the government. The plan is to reopen in-person groups as soon as it is possible.

4.2.6 Shortage of "Off to a Good Start"

There were supply issues during 2020. Laminated pages were provided on the wards and women were invited to go online to consult OTAGS. The QR code is advertised on the Parent Education leaflet. The supply issues seem to have now been resolved.

4.2.7 Antenatal Expressing

Kat Prangle asked for clarification around antenatal expressing.

Jacquelyn Imrie explained that more evidence from current pilots around the country is needed before national guidance can be agreed. In the meantime, NHS Lothian are continuing to support diabetic pregnant women with antenatal expressing. The hand expressing technique is also taught to women but for postnatal use.

4.3 **Parent Education**

Andie Hewitt gave an update. Women are also given access to the free Solihull online course and resources. The Parent Education leaflet gives QR codes for many online resources.

NHS Lothian have produced their own parent education videos which can be found on the maternity services website. The video on breastfeeding will be available soon.

Women are encouraged to join What's App groups and find it helps them connect with other women at the same stage in their pregnancy.

5. **Quality Improvement programme Board – Elizabeth Bream CPHM**

Please see attached slides.

Elizabeth Bream gave an overview of the QI programme for maternity and neonatal. It was set up in the autumn of 2020 and two QI Advisors were appointed.

The initial priorities are:

1. Prevention of Post Partum Haemorrhage >1000mls
2. Reducing 3rd/4th degree tears in all vaginal births – RIE only
3. Preventing stillbirth
4. Reducing unnecessary instrumental interventions and emergency caesarean section rates
5. Keeping mothers and babies together
6. Quality planning for Neonatal improvement objectives

The QI Team are linking with parents through various projects and there are plans to advertise QI work progress and its positive impact to the wider public.

6. **Date of Next meeting**

- 6.1 The next meeting of the MSLC is scheduled for 26 August 2021 (10.00 am to 11.30 am) via Microsoft Teams.

It will be followed by a meeting of the MSLC working group on shared decision-making and informed consent (11.30 am to 12.30 pm)

- 6.2 2021 meetings

28 October, 16 December

All Thursdays at 10 am via Microsoft Teams

Running Action Note

ACTION NO.	DESCRIPTION	LEAD
2.1	Online survey tools for maternity services	JC
2.2	Baby feeding journal update	JI
2.4	Social Media update	JC
2.5	Homebirth Team update	JC
2.6	Decision about Birth Satisfaction Scale	JC