

Minutes of the Maternity Services Liaison Committee meeting held on 4th February 2021 via Microsoft Teams.

In Attendance:

Mathilde Peace	(Chair) Lay Representative
Lyndsay Baird	Committee Administrator
Justine Craig	Director of Midwifery, Women and Neonatal
Julie Smeaton	Lay member
Sara Ferreira-Jeffries	Scottish Doula Network
Nicola Welsh	Held in our Hearts (prev. SANDS Lothians)
Sarah Denniston	La Leche League
Zoe Brown	NCT Breastfeeding Project Coordinator
Carol Hodgkin	Breastfeeding Network
Yvonne Cunningham	Obstetric Lead Labour Ward St John's Hospital
Emma Campbell	Charge Midwife (St John's Hospital)
Kaz Bryson	Midwife, St John's Hospital
Jennifer Clunie	Midwife, St John's Hospital
Lynn Rose	Clinical Midwifery Manager
Emma Westall	Charge Midwife (ward 119 RIE)
Jacquelyn Imrie	Infant Feeding Lead, NHS Lothian
Elaine Turnbull	Project Midwife (breastfeeding)
Andie Hewitt	Parent Education Coordinator
Carolyn Worlock	Team Manager, Community Health Visitors
Heather Yuill	Community Midwifery Team Leader
Kate Park	Community Midwife
Carol Downie	Community Midwife
Lesley Scott	Community Midwife
Tracy McGillivray	Team Leader, Health Promotion
Karen Ormiston	Assistant Programme Manager

Apologies: Sally Egan, Liz Foster, Kat Prangle, Sue Shade, Daisy Dinwoodie, Catriona Grainger, Laura Goullee.

Welcome and Introductions

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members attending for the first time: Karen Ormiston, Assistant programme Manager, Sara Ferreira-Jeffries, Scottish Doula Network and Justine Craig, Director of Midwifery.

MP also welcomed the community midwives and Community Team Leaders attending the meeting.

MP invited the members to take a moment to remember Jenni McKinnon, a colleague and friend, who had sadly passed away in the Summer of 2020.

Positions of MSLC Chair and Vice-chair 2021-23

These positions are held for 2 years and time has come for their renewal.

Mathilde Peace was re-appointed as Chair, nominated by Zoe Brown and seconded by Andrea Hewitt

Justine Craig was appointed as Vice-chair, nominated by MP and seconded by Emma Westall.

The Chair made special mention of the retirement of Sally Egan from the position of Vice-chair. She put on record her heartfelt thanks for the time and support Sally had given to the committee for many years.

MP invited JC as newly appointed Director of Midwifery to talk about her new role. JC explained that she had strategic leadership for gynaecology, maternity and neonatology. Katy Ruggeri had been appointed as Operations Manager for maternity services and they would be working side by side. The focus would be on implementing the Best Start and embedding the new models of care. She highlighted the importance of being a learning organisation, listening to women's feedback and reviewing complaints to make improvements where needed. Perinatal Mental Health would see service developments as would Bereavement support. Finally, she wanted to start working towards UNICEF Baby Friendly Gold standard.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

1.1 The minutes of the meeting on 17 December 2020 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. MP has approached JC to ask for designated admin users in maternity services to be appointed.

JC to action and update

2.2 Maternity Dashboard - MP had not heard back from HM yet. Yvonne Cunningham, Lead Obstetrician for the labour ward at St John's was willing to take part in the VBAC project.

MP to contact HM again about dashboard and VBAC group.

2.3 Better Birth Group RIE - Lynn Rose will confirm when a new lead is appointed.

LR

- 2.4 MSLC Working Group on shared decision-making and consent - The group met on 20 January and decided to propose a more extensive trial of a decision-making tool based on BRAiN. A new design of the tool is underway. Translations are planned.

The maternity website review group noted that the section on shared decision-making and informed consent did not have enough content.

Members were asked to make suggestions by 9th February.

2.5 Clinical Guidelines

MP had spoken with the chair of the Guideline Group to see whether the clinical guidelines could be uploaded onto the public-facing NHS Lothian website.

There was agreement that the guidelines were written for clinicians and therefore might not be appropriate for a public website.

The following decision was made:

- To upload all current patient information leaflets on the website
- To add links to reference websites such as NICE, RCM or RCOG.
- To advise women that specific clinical guidelines can be discussed with their lead care provider.

MP to advise website review group

2.6 Maternity Engagement Groups

Around 12 mothers were interested in taking part in this quality improvement work. The groups on care on postnatal ward at RIE (including breastfeeding support) and welcome pack / discharge process will be contacted for their first meeting in February.

PS to coordinate

2.7 Social Media

JC said she had been struck by the absence of social media presence for NHS Lothian maternity services. She wanted to take this forward and had the full support of Alex McMahon, Executive Director. **She would call a short-life working group to agree a social media communications strategy.** Anyone wanting to take part was to come forward. She mentioned good examples could be found in Tayside and Grampian.

JC

KO and GL had met with Zoe Paige from the Children's Services to explore their set up and what could be learned from them.

MP would contact the Northern Ireland Local Women Facebook group whose partnership with their local MSLC had been mentioned on the HIS Engage website.

3. Covid-19 Impact on Services and Staff

MP invited the service leads, medical and midwifery staff and health visitors to share their experiences.

Lynn Rose said it had been a very hectic time when Covid-19 hit with introduction of new guidance to keep staff and women safe while maintaining a woman-centred service as much as possible. Things had since settled but remained challenging.

Midwives explained that they found wearing a mask had a big impact on how they could convey support and compassion. They relied on expressing as much as they could through their eyes. KB explained that St John's (SJH) labour ward found that having a display of pictures of smiling staff was helpful to women.

EC mentioned that sadly the postnatal ward at SJH had problems with partners not following Covid-19 regulations when on the ward. There were confrontations daily with people not wearing masks or putting their feet on the beds.

MP offered to circulate reminder of expected behaviour and covid-safe poster through Third Sector social media. MP/ EC

NW of Held In Our Hearts said that the charity had provided bereavement support to in excess of 200 families through 2020 and had had 93 new referrals. She thanked staff for the compassionate one-to-one care given to women and well managed referrals to HIOH. She praised staff for their efforts to convey compassion in spite of PPE and quoted a woman saying: "I could see the kindness in their eyes".

CW said that health visitors had adapted well and wanted to remind women that, even though routine contact was reduced, they were still able to make home visits and offer face-to-face support.

4. MSLC 2020 Annual Report

MP invited comments and suggestions from all by 14 February before circulation.

5. Induction of Labour – Emma Westall, Charge Midwife ward 119 RIE

EW gave an update on the IOL service. As of September 2020, induction with Cook's balloon had become the first line of care across Lothian. The aim was to improve women's journey as induction was the service with most complaints. Other units had shown very successful results following introduction of the balloons.

A Lothian audit of 400 women (200 with prostaglandine, 200 with Cook's balloon) showed that although there was no difference with delivery type there were many positives: labour shortened by average of 17 hours, 96% success rate of cervix opening after 12-24hrs enabling artificial rupture of membranes, lower post-partum haemorrhage (35% blood loss over 500 ml with balloon against 43% with prostaglandine). Women satisfaction was higher with balloon. There was less monitoring required as no drugs involved.

Women would normally be able to go home once balloon was fitted but this was not possible yet. Work was ongoing to allow this soon.

IOL leaflet will be updated accordingly.

6. Homebirth Review Group

JC gave an update. The group was looking at various options and models of care. The service model had potential to fit in well with the Best Start implementation roll out.

MP had received a comprehensive paper presenting women's views and expectations collated by DD, Pregnancy and Parents Centre, and SF-J, Scottish Doula Network. She thanked them for their help with this. The paper had been sent to the review group for consideration.

7. Any Other Competent Business

7.1 Andie Hewitt gave an update on Parenthood Education

The patient information leaflet was in the process of being translated into 12 languages. The translated leaflets would be available online for printing.

7.2 Birth Satisfaction Scale

JC mentioned the BSS-R designed by Professor Caroline Hollins-Martin of Napier University.

MP to look into it and discuss further

7.3 Changes in Vitamins Provision

TMG gave an update on the new vitamins distribution model following from Scottish Government changes.

A 3 month pilot will see Healthy Start vitamins sent to all pregnant women in the booking pack and then given at first appointment. Vitamin D will be given to breastfeeding mums and babies at discharge.

TMG to send latest draft of PIL to MP

7.4 Online Breastfeeding Support

Jl reminded the MSLC that Zoom sessions by peer supporters are still being offered and very well attended.

ZB (NCT) and SD (LLL) said that they were both now running two new groups: Antenatal group for women who want to discuss feeding options and a Breastfeeding Beyond Babyhood group. All free, funded by Scottish Government.

Jl mentioned that BLISS volunteers were offering online support for parents with babies in the neonatal unit. Details can be found on the BLISS website.

7.5 Compassionate Care Training

NW said that Held in our Hearts would be delivering compassionate care training to NHS staff on the last Monday of each month until May 2021.

8. **Date of Next meeting**

8.1 The next meeting of the MSLC is scheduled for 1st April 2021 at 10 am via Microsoft Teams. It will be followed by a meeting of the MSLC working group on shared decision-making and informed consent.

8.2 2021 meetings

1st April, 3rd June, 26 August, 28 October, 16 December

All Thursdays at 10 am via Microsoft Teams

Running Action Note

ACTION NO.	DESCRIPTION	LEAD
2.1	Set up admin users for JISC online survey tool for maternity services	JC
2.2	Contact Hanan Mustafa about maternity dashboard	MP

	and VBAC group proposals	
2.3	Better Birth RIE – advise of new lead	LR
2.5	Patient Information Leaflets and how to discuss clinical guidelines with HCP – for website review group	MP
2.6	Maternity Engagement groups update	MP
2.7	Social media working group	JC
3	Circulate Covid-safe PN ward poster	EC / MP
4	Comments on MSLC annual report by 14 Feb	ALL
7.2	Look into BSS-R tool from Napier	MP /JC
7.3	Send latest draft of PIL on vitamins distribution to MP	TMG