

Minutes of the Maternity Services Liaison Committee held on 19 December 2019 at 10am in Room 5, Chancellor's Building, Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.

**In Attendance:**

<b>Mathilde Peace</b>	(Chair) Lay Representative
<b>Sau Mei Fong</b>	Chinese Linkworker, MEHIS
<b>Emma Cashmore-Gordon</b>	Aberlour Perinatal Support Services
<b>Zoe Brown</b>	NCT Breastfeeding Project Coordinator
<b>Kirstin Worsley</b>	PFG Project Lead, BF Network
<b>Karla Napier</b>	La leche League Leader
<b>Sarah Denniston</b>	La Leche League Leader
<b>Mo Brownlee</b>	RMW/ IBLLC Lay Member
<b>Nicola Welsh</b>	SANDS Lothians
<b>Jacqueline Imrie</b>	Infant Feeding Lead, NHS Lothian
<b>Tracy McGillivray</b>	Team Leader, Health Promotion
<b>Pauline Smith</b>	Clinical Midwifery Manager
<b>Sue Shade</b>	Clinical Midwifery Manager
<b>Emma Westall</b>	Chief Midwife 119 RIE
<b>Catriona Grainger</b>	Chief Midwife, 211 RIE
<b>Donna Swinney</b>	Charge Midwife Lothian Birth Centre
<b>Helen MacGregor</b>	Midwife, Practice Education Facilitator
<b>Jenni Bonnar</b>	Family Nurse Supervisor
<b>Chris Kissack</b>	Consultant Neonatologist
<b>Garry Luke</b>	Best Start Implementation Manager

**Apologies:**

Moyra Burns, Sally Egan, Lynn Rose, Andie Hewitt, Daisy Dinwoodie, Charlotte Scott, Kat Prangle, Francesca Dymond.

**Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed the Committee to the December meeting of the MSLC. Members introduced themselves for the benefit of the new members present.

**1. Minutes of the previous meeting**

1.1 The minutes of meeting held on 10 October 2019 were accepted as an accurate record.

**2. Running Action Note**

- 2.1 MSLC New Members Welcome Packs - MP advised that welcome packs had been emailed to new members. She agreed to pick up those missed in the initial distribution. MP requested feedback from those members who had received the pack to improve future editions.
- 2.2 Triage – MP advised that the meeting with Annette Barwick would be picked up in 2020.
- 2.3 Survey Monkey – The contract with a new provider, Online Surveys, has been signed. MP advised that, disappointingly, the contract did not allow online surveys of the public, only paper based surveys. MP to follow this matter up with Simon Malzer (Public Involvement Manager) and Judith Mackay (Director of Communications, Engagement and Public Affairs). All online surveys were on hold until this matter was resolved. **MP**
- 2.4 Caesarean Section – Members noted that CS rates were recorded through the maternity Dashboard. Members agreed it was essential to have an obstetrician in attendance to discuss the dashboard and to postpone until then. **MP**
- 2.5 Breastfeeding Peer Supporters on PN Wards RIE – Peer supporters had been trained and started within the Neonatal Unit RIE in collaboration with NCT (Zoe Brown). There is a will to extend the service to the postnatal wards at RIE once the Infant Feeding Advisor post had been filled. Members were assured that the BF peer supporter programme on PN wards was a priority for 2020.
- 2.5.1 Breastfeeding Peer supporters attend St. John's hospital on Thursday evenings. The service is very well received by new mothers.
- 2.6 Neonatal Case (Breastfeeding) – Sau Mei Fong reported that she had attended the unit as support for a mother whose first language was not English. The Mother had expressed an interest in breastfeeding and advice sought. Advice given was that the baby should be on a high calorie supplement, leaving the mother with excess milk which was ultimately discarded. Mother and baby were home and well but unable to proceed with Breastfeeding. Standard practice was that the Mother's milk would be used alongside the supplements. Sau Mei Fong would collate the details of the case to pass to the service and investigate which translation tools were utilised during this process. Jacqueline Imrie would look into the case regarding advice given.
- 2.7 Partners' Contract (Overnight Stay) – A contract or code of conduct for those partners wishing to stay overnight following birth is being developed nationally. The Contract would hold partners to account and provide boundaries for their behaviour during their stay in hospital. Members

welcomed the national approach but noted that, regrettably, progress had been slow. MP would speak to Frances McGuire to see if the process could be accelerated or something could be put in place to mitigate frustration in the interim.

MP

2.7.1 Helen MacGregor mentioned that one student midwife is working on this issue at RIE. She offered to share the work when completed. She would provide a list of all research projects to MP.

HMG

2.8 Keeping Families Together – Work to keep mothers and babies together after delivery when baby needs extra care was progressing. Lynn Rose would lead the programme of work.

2.9 Any other matters arising – there were no other matters arising from the previous minutes.

### 3. Under MSLC Watch

3.1 MP advised that the Under MSLC Watch item would be revised on future agendas. In its current form it had not been effective.

3.2 Triage – MP advised that Triage could be one of the partnership projects in 2020 once contact has been made with Annette Barwick.

3.3 Caesarean Section – The Maternity Dashboard would be considered in February 2020.

3.4 Induction of Labour – Induction of Labour would feature on the April MSLC agenda for Emma Westall to give an update. MP agreed to consider organising a 15 steps visit of ward 119 in 2020.

MP/EW

3.5 Better Birth – There was no update at this time. MP would follow up with Gillian Gardiner on the progress of the Better Birth Group.

MP

3.6 Best Start – MP noted that going forward Best Start would be a standing item on the MSLC agenda.

3.6.1 Garry Luke gave a detailed overview of the Best Start Implementation Progress. Key Issues related to:

- The continuity of care programme – Continuity of care had been rolled out to 2 teams. Due to staffing issues within the Willow Team those staff recruited for the third team had been redirected to the Willow team. The service would take this opportunity to review the workload of the existing teams.
- Funding and workforce planning – funding was not recurring for these projects and the national recruitment situation remained challenging. NHS Lothian was exploring this matter with Scottish Government colleagues.

- Freeing up resources to allow cross training between the acute and community midwifery teams.
- Neonatal Pilot – to date there had been 4 transfers from NHS five. Numbers had been lower than expected. The service would investigate referral rates to ensure that patients were not being missed.
- Keeping Mothers and Babies together was going well; as of 12 November 2019, 12 babies had been cared for on the PN ward, 40 babies have been cared for within the community setting.

3.6.2 The Continuity of Care programme was audited regularly. The process was manual and a time consuming process, the process would move to an electronic questionnaire on Trak. Work to promote the feature on Trak was underway. Overall results of the audits had been positive achieving up to 90% continuity. There is a need to promote the positive impact of continuity of care for both midwives and women in order to gain support going forward.

#### **4. Mothers' Voices Report**

Members considered the previously circulated final report. MP extended her thanks to Nicola Tait in the production of the final report and those members who had attended and supported the event at the PPC on 6 June 2019. Going forward reports from future similar events would need to be produced within 2 months of the event to ensure the outcomes were fed back to participants in a timely manner.

4.1 Overall the event was judged to have been successful and provided useful insight into the experience of maternity services users. The feedback helped the service decide which areas to prioritise for improvement and the report describes the improvement work undertaken as a result of the event.

4.2 MP asked those members present to disseminate the report widely. The final report would be published on the PPC website to ensure that the outcomes were fed back to those who attended the event.

The Committee agreed to hold a Mothers' Voices event in West Lothian in 2020. Nicola Welsh suggested that some thought should be given on how to include bereaved parents. MP will liaise with SS and NW.

**MP/SS/NW**

#### **5. Improvement Project Postnatal Ward - Ward 211 at RIE**

5.1 Catriona Grainger spoke to the previously circulated summary of actions. Key actions were:

- Changes to ward 211 environment to make it less clinical and more welcoming in the patients areas.
- Admission 'welcome packs' had been revised and formatted so that they could be easily distinguished from the discharge packs.

- There had been engagement with ENGIE, the catering provider, and solutions to improve choice of meals and snacks were found.
- 'What Matters to You' posters had been displayed on the ward.
- New Signage had been ordered both for getting to ward 211 from outside and for going from ward 211 to the neonatal unit. Garry Luke to follow up with Facilities in respect of the timeline for the implementation of the signage.
- Ward security had been improved. Access to the ward via secure buzzer and camera system was now in place.
- Parents' room redesign was being explored and will continue in 2020.

GL

5.2 Members agreed that the 15 Steps visit was a good tool and that other areas could be considered to repeat the exercise and make similar improvements.

## 6. MSLC Working Group on Consent

6.1 MP advised the committee of progress with the pilot of the decision making tool (BRAINS stickers). Initial feedback from one Midwife in Leith was that the stickers were not used in the first stages of pregnancy (Bookers to 22 weeks), it was thought that those women in the later stages of pregnancy would benefit more from them. Feedback from the other 3 midwives was still to be collated. MP would bring the pilot data back to consider in February.

MP

6.2 Members noted that BRAN posters that were part of NHS Lothian initiative through the Choosing Wisely UK group had been displayed in the waiting areas within the Simpson's Centre.

6.3 Karla Napier advised she had received positive anecdotal feedback on the BRAINS tool from a woman who had been induced for medical reasons.

## 7. National Bereavement Care Pathway

7.1 Nicola Welsh gave a detailed overview of the National Bereavement Care Pathway <https://nbcpathway.org.uk/>. NHS Scotland was in the process of developing the Scottish NBCP and NW was chairing the steering group. It was anticipated that the first pathway (out of five) would be rolled out in January 2020. A review was planned once all five pathways were embedded. A Scottish NBCP would be launched shortly.

7.2 Members noted that SANDS Lothians would be changing their name in the new year, the new name would be released early January 2020. The current name was no longer fit for purpose as SANDS Lothian had grown beyond the Lothians and was also supporting women and families who had suffered a loss at any point. The charity focuses on empathy, connection and love and the new name would represent that. Nicola Welsh sought the committee's support in the promotion of the new name once it was released. PPC, CK,

EW, BFN and NCT offered to support the communication of the name change through their services.

## **8. Aberlour Perinatal Befriending Service**

- 8.1 Emma Cashmore-Gordon gave a detailed overview of the support provided through the befriending service. She noted that the focus of the service was to provide mental health support through pregnancy up to 1 year post birth through the process of befriending and peer support. Befrienders and mothers were matched up and met weekly building up a relationship and trust through emotional listening support. The service covered Forth Valley and East Lothian (Tranent, Prestonpans and Haddington). Service would extend in the New Year to North Berwick, Gullane and Aberlady. It was hoped the service could eventually be extended across Scotland.
- 8.2 Funding for Forth Valley was secured to March 2020 and September 2021 for East Lothian. Work to identify recurring funding to extend the programme of work was ongoing.
- 8.3 Evaluation of the Forth Valley Pilot (conducted by the University of Stirling) would be shared when available.

## **9. Breastfeeding Projects**

- 9.1 Breastfeeding Network – Kirstin Worsley updated the committee on the BFN service in Midlothian. She noted plans to recruit a further coordinator in January and the start of walking and talking groups which would extend access to families with toddlers and wider family members. There would be a peer supporters training session in the Spring 2020 and it was hoped that capacity would be increased to 27 peer supporters.
  - 9.1.1 Kirstin Worsley noted that the BFN national helpline would operate 24/7 over the festive period.
- 9.2 NCT – The Lothian Breastfeeding Buddies group in the Inch/ Gilmerton area was working well. Further work with services to embed in Sighthill, gate 85 was required. Peer support had commenced in the neonatal unit in December and was going well.
- 9.3 Sarah Denniston advised the group of her work with the Scottish Government Advocacy and Cultural Change Group surrounding national branding and changing the culture around breastfeeding in public. There were plans to promote breastfeeding with events throughout the calendar year.

- 9.4 La Leche league – Karla Napier stated that there were currently 3 drop-in venues with monthly sessions and a 4<sup>th</sup> one to start in 2020 at the PPC for toddlers. LLL offers answers to questions by email through a help form on the website, as well as live chat and a national helpline.
- 9.5 Pregnancy and Parents Centre – The PPC were successful in their bid for new premises in the Pleasance and would move in January to the new site; it was anticipated that there would be no disruption to services during the move. The MSLC had been invited to host their first meeting in the new premises in June 2020.

## **10. AOCB**

- 10.1 There was nothing to report.

## **11. Date of the Next Meeting and Proposed Dates for 2020**

- 11.1 The next meeting of the Maternity Services Liaison Committee was scheduled for **6 February 2020** at 10 am the Chancellor's Building, room 5, Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

## **12. Dates for 2020, all Thursdays at 10 am**

6 February at RIE

2 April at RIE

4 June at PPC

27 August at RIE

29 October at St John's

17 December at RIE

## Running Action Note

<b>ACTION NO.</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>LEAD</b>
<b>2.3</b>	MP to enquire about online survey tool	<b>MP</b>
<b>2.4</b>	Maternity Dashboard for discussion as soon as obstetrician can attend MSLC meeting.	<b>MP</b>
<b>2.7</b>	Contract for partners staying overnight – MP to speak to FMG to accelerate progress	<b>MP/FMG</b>
<b>2.7.1</b>	Helen MacGregor would provide a list of all midwifery research projects to MP.	<b>HMG</b>
<b>3</b>	Add The Best Start as standing item on agenda	<b>MP/LB</b>
<b>3.4</b>	Progress of the Better Birth Group.	<b>MP/GG</b>
<b>4.2</b>	Disseminate Mothers' Voices report widely.  In 2020 the Committee would look to have an event in West Lothian.	<b>All</b>  <b>NW/MP/SS</b>
<b>5.1</b>	Garry Luke to follow up with Facilities in respect of the timeline for the implementation of the new signage	<b>GL</b>
<b>6.1</b>	MP would bring the decision-making tool pilot data for consideration by working group in February.	<b>MP</b>