

Norfolk and Norwich Maternity Services Liaison Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11th July 2006.

Present

Chris BarnettHealth Visiting Team Leader, Norwich PCT
Lisa Brophy.....National Childbirth Trust (MSLC Vice Chair)
Karen Dures.....National Childbirth Trust
Mark Dyke.....Consultant Paediatrician
Deya Elsandabesee.....Registrar (Obstetrics and Gynaecology)
Rosie Jackson.....Midwife/Project Coordinator
Sian Larrington.....Sure Start Programme Manager
Rachel Leeds.....South Norfolk PCT
Sue Marshall.....Head of Midwifery
Glynis Moore.....Community Midwifery Manager
Anthea Nicholson.....PPI Forum Representative
Judy Rivett.....Non-Executive Director, NNUH Trust Board
Richard Smith.....Consultant in Foetal Medicine
Richard Warren.....Divisional Clinical Director and Consultant Obstetrician

1)Apologies for Absence & welcome to new members

Joanne Doleman.....National Childbirth Trust
Sue Frost.....Midwife (community)
Barbara Kelly.....GP, representing Norfolk Local Medical Committee
Julie Lindsay.....Professional Head of Midwifery, UEA
Michelle Newbury Lee....Embrace Young Mums
Jackie Sutton.....MSLC Coordinator
Sian Verney.....National Childbirth Trust
Clare Walker.....Independent User Rep
Karen Watts.....Assistant Director of Nursing for Women and Children's Services and Sexual health.

Anthea, Sian, Richard and Rachel were welcomed onto the committee. Rachel is covering for Tara Studholme-Lyons while she is on maternity leave.

2)Minutes of Last Meeting

These were approved. Chris did not receive them – need to check she is on the email list for distribution. JS

3)Matters Arising

a) *SHA work on caesarian section rates* – Rachel will follow this up. RL

b) *Research into reasons for maternal request for caesarean section* - this work has not been undertaken yet because the service is an IT midwife post short.

c) *Unicef Baby Friendly Status* – Sue has not been contacted yet regarding the availability of charitable funds. She will follow this up. **SM**

d) *PCT Reconfiguration* – Agreement has been reached and from 1st October there will be one Norfolk PCT covering all of Norfolk apart from Great Yarmouth and Waveney. The Chief Executives and Chairs are currently being appointed.

e) *Maternity Service Steering Group Strategy Document* – Sue has had lots of positive feedback from the groups involved, but needs time to put the document together. **SM**

4)Comments and Suggestions

Not discussed as Lynn Taylor not present.

5) Issues arising from the MSLC joint conference (held with King’s Lynn and Great Yarmouth MSLCs)

a) *Use of WHO growth charts for breastfed babies* – There is a cost implication in changing the charts but Chris thought that Thorpe Hamlet Sure Start have used them. Chris will ask Christine Casey about this. Lisa will research the effects of using the charts in areas where they have done so (as some complications were envisaged such as many babies not being exclusively breastfed, mothers stopping breastfeeding).

CB/LB

b) *Growth Charts for premature babies* – Chris advised that the relevant number of weeks are always knocked off the chart to allow for this.

c) *How/when bounty packs are issued to mothers of premature babies and women who have home births* – Midwives attending home births can collect them from Glynis’ office or the West Norwich Hospital, plus Bounty deliver direct to the Hoveton midwives. Mothers of premature babies receive them on Blakeney Ward.

d) *NNUH policy and practice re identifying and dealing with cases of domestic violence* – Glynis advised that all community midwives are meant to ask women if there are any issues. If the partner is present they do not do so, and to address these cases the Child Protection Lead Nurse is to obtain some small cards which will be included in the Bounty pack, and there is to be some information in the maternity services booklet. Health Visitors put a leaflet about it in every red book and raise the issue at every antenatal appointment. Unfortunately it is no longer possible to put information in the hospital toilets due to the toilets being unisex. A new risk assessment tool will be coming out for the whole trust soon, and A&E are gathering data based on postcode to produce a mapping exercise for the county. All midwives receive mandatory training on domestic violence. Sue is considering finding the money for all staff to be given a booklet on domestic violence produced by the RCM.

e) *MSLC Budget* – Rachel will check what the budget can be used for. We need to consider how it could be used to attract a broader range of user reps eg could it be used to fund a crèche? Anthea will look into whether Busy Bees nursery might be willing to offer this service. **AN/RL**

f) *Times and frequencies of meetings* – other MSLCs meet more frequently. Lisa asked whether we want to do so, and whether we want to look at the remit of the committee. Lisa will try to find out what other MSLCs around the country are doing, for discussion next time.

LB

6) Revised National Guidelines for MSLCs.

See the notes of the meeting held to discuss this.

Strengthening MSLC membership - Rachel confirmed she will look for a second GP rep. Sian and the other Sure Start programme leaders will take turns in coming. Glynis provided contact details for Jackie to follow up for the young Men's Project and the Norfolk Teenage Strategy Unit. Cindy Seehan from Embrace young Mums would like to join the committee. Ric advised that he would continue to attend for the present but may in future ask Richard Smith to take over.

Developing closer links with other groups at NNUH - Lisa advised that she will join the Midwifery Guidelines Committee after Christmas provided she can find childcare.

Increasing user feedback – Karen D is working on the wording for the MSLC website and a draft should be ready shortly. The questionnaire has now been placed in all ante- and post-natal areas. Other possibilities are posters and a piece on “Baby TV” in waiting areas. Putting a leaflet into Bounty packs would have significant cost implications and the MSLC is already mentioned in the booklet which goes into the pack.

Commissioning- Rachel is to attend an inaugural meeting tomorrow to discuss this. **JS**

7) NNUH Information sheet on Induction of Labour

This is not due for review until October 08 but the user reps are not happy with the information provided in it. It was agreed that the user reps would note what they would like covered instead for consideration at the next meeting.

User reps

8) MSLC Projects

a) *Information Audit/Review* – Rosie has compiled a list of all leaflets available on the Intranet and from the DOH (as these are free). She suggested taking hard copies of all leaflets available to a team meeting so that all midwives would know what leaflets are available and how to source them. However there are difficulties in obtaining sufficient copies of some of the leaflets, and some have to be downloaded which is not practicable for the numbers needed. Judy suggested women could be given the list so that they can access the websites themselves. Rosie has identified some gaps eg breastfeeding for dads and grandparents which she is in the process of producing. Leaflets on mastitis and breast thrush are also needed and the Breastfeeding Network produce some which she could fund. It was agreed that the user reps would look at these first. There are also gaps re postnatal care for women. Heron is accessible to the public and Karen will check whether the leaflets available on the intranet can be accessed from the NNUH website by the public. It was suggested the input from user reps into the wording of leaflets before rather than after review could be achieved at the Midwifery Guidelines committee.

The Maternity Services booklet is due for review in September. Lisa took some copies for the user reps. Some changes have been identified (inclusion of statement re domestic violence and info about breastfeeding support groups), but any other suggestions for changes need to be fed back to Rosie or Glynis **within 2 weeks from this meeting**. (NB the number of words cannot be increased, so any additional information will have to lead to cutbacks elsewhere).
RJ/KD/User Reps

b) Labour Ward Environment Audit – it is hoped to complete this before the next meeting. Jan Edwards has found some funding to make the rooms more user friendly, thereby overcoming the prohibition on decoration. Diabetes UK and the N&N Diabetics Association are sponsoring one of the rooms. Jan is looking at obtaining a “Birth in a Box” birthing pool, which is free but liners have to be purchased. It was confirmed that women are welcome to bring their own pools in – they just need to inform Delivery Suite.

c) MSLC Website –As above.

9) Treatment of tongue tie in newborns

A process is now in place which seems to be working. Midwives refer to Rosie to assess before referral on to the paediatric surgeons. The process does take about a week, and women have to get to Hoveton to see Rosie. Negotiations are underway for 2 other midwives to take on this role for North and South Norfolk. It was agreed that the process needs to be rolled out to all midwives and GPs – Sue will take this forward with Rosie.

SM/RJ

10) Information on NNUH Maternity Services

a) Maternity Service Statistics April – June. There were more births last quarter. It was noted that there were more spontaneous and fewer instrumental births, and continuous monitoring was up slightly.

b) Summary of Comments and Complaints. Sue advised that the complaint regarding the amenity room was not accurate as Maternity never had any wards closed due to the vomiting bug. They just had signs up warning visitors not to come onto the wards if suffering from the bug.

c) Labour Ward Forum update – not discussed as Sheila Crisp was not present. The minutes should have gone to Jackie.

11) AOB

Fundraising - Glynis reported that £7000 has been raised of which £4,500 has recently been spent on a foetal monitoring system for Hoveton (so women don't need to travel to the NNUH). The rest of the money will go towards one for the Dereham area. Congratulations were extended from the MSLC.

Postnatal Clinics – by the end of August 18 clinics should be up and running across the NNUH area so that women can be offered the option of attending a clinic instead of

having to wait in for a midwife. Women who do not attend will be followed up and those involved in child protection cases will still be seen at home. It will mainly be the woman's choice, but if there are staff shortages women may have to go to a clinic to be seen.

12)Date of next meeting

Full MSLC: Tuesday 3rd October , 11 am to 1 pm at NNUH

Users' Group: Wednesday 13th September 9.30 – 11.30 am at Sian Verney's house.