

Immediate & Essential Actions

Working together, our progress and next steps

In December 2020, the Ockenden Report was published and had seven immediate and essential actions (IEAs) for NHS Trusts. To monitor progress against each IEA we hold quarterly Ockenden Review Panels and monthly Ockenden Assurance meetings with partners from across the local maternity system, including representation from our Maternity Voices Partnership (MVP). **A considerable amount of progress has been made across all IEAs.**

01 Enhanced Safety



What we needed to do

Neighbouring Trusts must work together to ensure that investigations into Serious Maternity Incidents (SIs) are looked into by local and regional teams.

Our Plan

- Set up a system working group to review and learn from SI's.
- Ensure our Local Maternity and Neonatal System (LMNS Board) have oversight of safety and learning from SI's is shared across our local NHS organisations to make services safer.

Our Progress

- We are working together more closely to ensure timely access to the right information and that we learn from incidents to make our services safer.
- We now have access to vital information about the services you access when you are pregnant which allows us to plan our services better.

Our Next Steps

- We will use the information we have to identify gaps in our services and make sure all women, birthing people, and their babies have their best outcome.
- We want to make sure that you can see our progress and are developing a way of sharing information with you.

02 Listening to Women and Families



What we needed to do

Maternity services must make sure that women, birthing people, and their families are listened to with their voices heard.

Our Plan

- Work closely with our MVP to involve women, birthing people and families in planning and decisions about their care.
- Work with local partners to make sure services involve fathers and partners in discussions about appointments and care.

Our Progress

- We recognised that our MVP model wasn't right for the people of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. We have started to work together with the MVP to refresh our approach.
- We are pleased to welcome a new chair and team of 9 volunteers.

Our Next Steps

- We know there is more we can do to ensure that people using our services are involved in developing them and this is something we will be working on with our MVP.

If you would like to support this or find out more, please [click here](#).

- Birthing people and families that use neonatal services are heard.
- We will be recruiting an 'Independent Senior Advocate' to ensure family voices are strongly and effectively represented in our system.
- We know these are not the only groups representing women, birthing people, and families and we will continue to find ways to work with our communities.

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03 Staff Training and Working Together



What we needed to do

Staff who work together must train together.

Our Plan

- Make sure staff have the right skills needed to safely care for women, birthing people, and their families.

Our Progress

- We've been working together to make sure that all of the recommended training is provided to our staff so they have the skills to deliver safe care.
- We know our diverse communities may need different support and we are supporting staff to understand how we can do this better.

Our Next Steps

- We will continue to make sure staff have all the skills they need to support you wherever you and your baby are cared for.

04 Managing Complex Pregnancy



What we needed to do

Make sure there are processes in place to help manage and support women and birthing people with complex pregnancies.

Our Plan

- Trusts have identified ways to help support women and birthing people with complex pregnancies and will continue to review this.
- Work with neonatal services to make sure women and birthing people can give birth in the setting that is safest for them and their babies.

Our Progress

- We're working with neighbouring maternity services to make sure you are able to receive the care you need as close to where you live as possible.

Our Next Steps

- We will continue to work with our hospitals to develop neonatal services to make sure that you can give birth in the place that's safest for you and your baby.

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05 Risk Assessment Throughout Pregnancy



What we needed to do

Staff must make sure women and birthing people have a risk assessment at each contact throughout their pregnancy.

Our Plan

- Midwives will continue to support women and birthing people to make the right choice for them about where they want to have their baby.
- Work together with women, birthing people, and their families to plan their care based on their needs.

Our Progress

- Trusts work with women and birthing people to ensure they have a clear plan based on their individual circumstances and need.
- Digital personalised care and support plans are available for all women and birthing people.
- We have invested in a new digital maternity system so that your pregnancy records are the same in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.
- All women and birthing people will have access to a personalised care and support plan in a way that works for them.
- NUH have launched a single point of access and triage service to support women and birthing people to have access to the information and support they need at any time.

Our Next Steps

- We will continue to work with women, birthing people, and families to support them in planning their care.
- We will work to support women and birthing people to have choice and control over their own care.

06 Monitoring Fetal Wellbeing



What we needed to do

All maternity services must appoint a dedicated Lead Midwife and Lead Obstetrician both with expertise to focus and show best practice in fetal monitoring.

Our Plan

- Trusts will have Midwife and Consultant Fetal Monitoring leads to improve practice, share learning, and support staff with fetal wellbeing monitoring.

Our Progress

- Both Sherwood Forest Hospitals and Nottingham University Hospitals have established Midwife and Consultant Fetal Monitoring leads who support staff to improve the monitoring and wellbeing of your unborn baby.

Our Next Steps

- We will support staff to be fully trained in safely monitoring the wellbeing of babies before they are born.

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07 Informed Consent



What we needed to do

All Trusts must make sure women and birthing people have access to accurate information so they can make choices about where they want to give birth and the mode of birth, including maternal choice caesareans.

Our Plan

- Trusts will continue to update their websites to provide women, birthing people, and families with information about places of birth and how they will receive care, with printed and translated information also available.
- Trusts will work with the MVP and other partners to make sure information is easy to find and suitable.

Our Progress

- The MVP have reviewed Trust websites to make sure information is easy to find and suitable. Trusts have listened to this and improved the information on their websites to help you make decisions about your pregnancy and birth.
- Trusts have ensured information can be available in most languages to support our communities to access information.
- We have invested in a new digital maternity app where you can access and update information that is important to you and your baby.

Our Next Steps

- We will work with our MVP and local communities to better understand what information you need and how you would like to access it.

If you would like to support this or find out more, please [click here](#).

