



**Maternity Voices Partnership (MVP)
Public Platform for All Things Maternity
(Voluntary Sector Partners Meeting)**

Tuesday 8th September 2020, 10.30am – 12.30pm on Zoom

Present: Aliya Fazil (Co-Chair & Bradford Doulas); Yazmin Shah (CNet); Jenny Pratt (CNet) (minutes); Edyta Siedlecka-Was (Family Action); Sara Firth (Healthwatch); Ansar Bi (Baby Steps); Charlotte Hamilton (Bradford Breastfeeding Buddies); Michelle Trevor (Mini First Aid); Julie Newbold (NCT Breastfeeding Buddies); Alison Brown (Midwife & Better Start Bradford); Chloe Storr; Waheeda Ghafoor (Family Action); Melissa Ryan-Thomas (Better Start Bradford); Maha Alomari (City of Sanctuary); Julie Ferguson; Victoria Simmons;(Head of Engagement Bradford District and Craven CCG).

Apologies: Laila Ahmed (EPP Lead)

Item		Action
1.	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>AF welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that this was the first time they had run this new format named Public Platform for All Things Maternity. Previously these were known as voluntary sector partners meetings. With the re branding of the name, the aim is engage and reach more individual parents as well as the current voluntary sector partner membership.</p>	

	<p>These meetings are to provide a safe space, without judgement, for people to share their experiences of their birthing stories and for the voluntary sector partners to share information on their services, thus providing an opportunity for networking and working together.</p>	
2.	<p>Overview of Maternity Voices Partnership</p> <p>YS explained the background to the Bradford District and Craven Maternity Voices Partnership (MVP). The MVP meets six times per year. Three main meetings are made up of partner agencies including midwifery teams, maternity care services, commissioners and voluntary sector partners.</p> <p>The remaining three meetings (i.e. this MVP Public Platform) are for individual parents and voluntary sector partners.</p> <p>The key themes from the latter meeting will be fed back as standing agenda items at the MVP main meetings and all experiences are collated and feedback to the NHS via a feedback channel called Grassroots.</p>	EPP to action
3.	<p>Information / Stories shared</p> <p>Three stories were shared of personal and individual experiences of maternity care received during their labour and pregnancy.</p> <p>These were a baby in transverse lie; a planned home birth which then became ward based with a referral time lag; and a birth where mum-to-be was unclear as to the reason certain procedures were being advised.</p> <p>Strong positive aspects mentioned were the support of midwives on the ward, the support and continuity of care provided by Home Birth team, and the breastfeeding support advice from midwives</p>	EPP to feedback full details on individual stories via Grassroots and to BTHFT

	<p>following the birth. Recommendations and advice were welcomed and trusted from senior midwives. The issue of workloads and caseloads for midwives arose, with the consensus being midwives need more time. It was suggested that they may not have time to signpost people to all the available services which are available.</p> <p>The focus of the Choice Agenda has been on educating women around what their choices are, and it was suggested there needs to be further work on educating staff. The three cases presented, all felt that within the maternity setting different teams and agencies need to talk to each other more. Also, that maternity care users need more information to understand how the service works when a complication arises.</p> <p>The personal experiences shared then opened up into a wider discussion with the voluntary sector partners and providers of maternity health care services present on support which was available to women and their families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better Start Bradford is working on a pathway which will show agencies what projects are appropriate at which time of the pregnancy. This may help with referrals to all agencies. • It was felt that health visitors need to look at mental health as a whole rather than just maternal mental health. Issues can be missed for a woman who has no maternal mental health issues, but other factors are still impacting her mental health. <p>Family Action are one of the routes available to women to share their voices and experiences. Midwives have fed back that the Family Action referral form is too long, so they can not refer.</p>	<p>WG to look at length of Family Action referral form & also</p>
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	<p>Members then discussed possible recommendations for the future</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To put fliers into Bounty Packs with information about local services which are available. Midwives move about but the information would always be in the correct geographical area. • To have information put on the notice boards when waiting for your glucose test. • Current Feedback Cards given to mum after birth, members asked if these could be given out later (by text/email/post) as some members felt that not all women would want to complete straight after giving birth • Could we have manual (paper) records if requested? A query on the legal status and the stance from the maternity wards on this issue. • More clarity on what the offer of the debrief service is. Suggestions were made that the debrief service should possibly be offered at a later stage than it currently is, to give women time to be able to reflect on their experiences. The reason stated for this is that it was felt some women may decline the debrief offer at immediate post birth and but may need the support at a later date. • To manage expectations of procedure from labour ward to post-natal services and to be clearer around post-natal care. 	<p>discuss with her midwifery contacts ways to improve comms across diff agencies</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>BTHFT Maternity Care Survey Feedback</p>	<p>SH/LA to share</p>

	<p>AF shared feedback with the group around the findings of the Maternity Survey carried out in May and June 2020.</p> <p>The response to restricted visiting due to Covid was generally positive. People using the Maternity Services felt that the staff had more time and that the women on the wards bonded more, however it was a long time to be on your own for some.</p>	<p>findings at main MVP meet 1/10/20</p>
5.	<p>What Next</p> <p>The information gathered today will be fed back through our Grass Roots channels as well as our Main MVP meeting on 1st October 2020</p> <p>Baby Week – MVP are running a (virtual) Birth Café event 9th November 2020 at 2-3pm. For further information and to book on, please contact yazmin@cnet.org.uk or see MVP Bradford District and Craven website.</p>	
6.	<p>Dates and time for MVP Voluntary Sector Partners Group 2020</p> <p>If you would like a slot to share or any present information/deliver a workshop, then please contact yazmin@cnet.org.uk</p> <p>Next meeting date and zoom passcode for Nov meeting to be forwarded.</p>	<p>YA to forward dates of next meeting</p>