



## Derbyshire Maternity & Neonatal Voices

Many thanks to those who attended our meeting on Monday the 28th of March! Here is a summary of what we discussed & latest news. If you have any questions or would like more information, don't hesitate to get it touch!

Very best wishes,  
Anne Marie -Chair of DMNV

### AN EXCITING YEAR AHEAD

In case you missed it, we recently published our first **annual report**, which you can view [here](#). The report gives a rundown of who we are, what we have been up to this past year and the **themes** we will be working on in **2022/2023**.

The report was presented at our **first AGM** on March 15th, where Anne Marie was voted in as Chair of Derbyshire Maternity and Neonatal Voices, after Co-Chair Shilpa stepped down. A **massive thank you to Shilpa** for all her work and enthusiasm over this past year - we are so glad Shilpa will be staying on as member of DMNV.



### MATERNAL MENTAL HEALTH

The meeting kicked off with a short presentation from **Sarah Hyland**, Clinical Psychologist for **the Maternal Mental Health Service**, a new and very welcomed service which is being developed in Derbyshire. The MMHS will look in particular to fill in the gaps to **support women** who currently fall outside the perinatal mental health service, for instance **following a loss**, and who experience **moderate to severe mental health difficulties**. Women will normally be referred into the service post 4 weeks loss

The MMHS will be run by **specialist midwives and clinical psychologists** and will offer services such as psychological support & EMDR therapy alongside support from peer support workers and assistant psychologists. Derbyshire Maternity and Neonatal Voices will be providing **service user input** to help shape the pathway to this great new service as it launches. **Thank you Sarah** for introducing the service to us and for answering all our questions!

## INFORMATION ON THE WARD

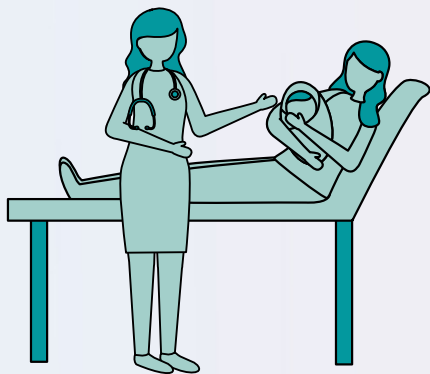
**Emily Brocklebank**, midwife from **UHDB**, spoke to us about how a lot of antenatal education was lost during the pandemic, and **information moved online** to guarantee access to the service.

Currently on the postnatal ward at UHDB there is a discharge DVD about what to expect in the first few days caring for baby. Emily is working hard to **produce new videos**, providing a revamp of the information and breaking it down into an **admission and discharge** video, alongside the antenatal education videos.

Emily would really welcome **feedback from service users** to make sure the videos **meet the needs of parents**. If you would like to **review the scripts** for the admission and discharge videos, send us an email, your input would be really appreciated!



## PLEASE SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE



We have received feedback from a few women who told us how they found it **difficult, physically and emotionally**, to **reach their babies** in their cots **following a c-section or other intervention** and recovering **on the ward**. We have been asked to **collect more feedback** on this issue to learn more about what worked well, what didn't and what could have helped.

We also wanted to know if **side cots**, attached to the bed on the ward, **would have been helpful** in these situations. If you have any experience you would like to **share with us** on this subject, please don't hesitate to get in touch!

## NEONATAL UPDATES

"We've had the pleasure of linking up with some of the staff at **Queens Hospital Burton** to gain further insight into the neonatal unit there and the current successes and challenges they face.

A visit to see the **units at UHDB** are planned for the end of April alongside the **East Midlands Neonatal ODN** where we will be able to shadow the ODN in undertaking **peer reviews with parents** on the unit at that time. It will be an opportunity for us to hear what is currently happening in terms of **family integrated care** and what the future plans are as well as what the current **feedback** is.

Our next goal is to arrange a **focus group of parents** who have had neonatal experience in **Chesterfield** and we hope it to set a date for that in April.

We are also looking at **tongue tie provision** in relation to **infant feeding** and are keen for stories related to this in both maternity and neonatal settings."

**Faye, DMNV Neonatal Volunteer Lead**

## INDUCTION OF LABOUR

Work on our induction of labour project is progressing really well. In the middle of March we held our **first face to face focus group** specifically on inductions in Chesterfield. It was a really great event and we received some really rich feedback. Photos and a summary of the day can be found on our facebook page.



A **comprehensive survey on inductions** will be launched very soon which will help to inform the work even further and we are looking forward to extending this project to make it Derbyshire-wide, covering both the **Chesterfield and UHDB Trusts**. We will provide regular updates on this work via social media & future newsletter.



## HELP TO SHAPE MIDWIFERY TRAINING

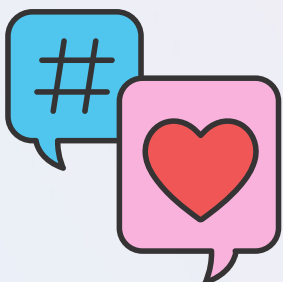
Midwifery lecturers at **Sheffield Hallam University** are looking for service users to share their input! **Service user involvement** is an opportunity for your voice to be heard within the **training of student midwives** and you would be invited to attend interviews and recruitment of new students, share your thoughts on course planning and sharing your experiences.

Participation in the sessions is **remunerated at £20** per hour, you can choose how much or little you would like to be involved (most of this takes place online). Send us an email for more information!

## VOLUNTEER WITH DMNV

Love **social media**? Have an interest in maternity issues?  
Become our **Social Media Volunteer Lead!**  
Email us for more info!

There are lots of ways you can get involved in our work, from reviewing service user information to helping with events. Get in touch!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **DMNV Homebirth Working Group - April 8th 2022, 12-13.30, on MS Teams**

The first meeting of this working group which will bring together midwives, service users, doulas and health care providers to promote a discussion on homebirths and improve information on this subject.

### **2nd DMNV Focus Group on Pregnancy & Baby Loss Experiences of Care - April 26th 2022, 12-13.30 on MS Teams**

Following on from our first focus group in November 2021, we will continue to explore the themes and issues which emerged from our survey on experiences of loss together with midwives, bereaved parents and charities such as SANDS and look at how to improve support & information.

### **Date TBC - DMNV feedback event on experiences of infant feeding aimed at younger parents**

We are working with DCHS to hear from parents who are or were under 20 years old when they had their child, to better understand their experiences around feeding their babies. We are looking to host two events, one in North and South Derbyshire. If you are interested or would like to help support this event, do get in touch!

### **Date TBC - DMNV Coffee Mornings**

We are looking to launch monthly coffee mornings in Derby in conjunction with our friends at Derby Community Parent Programme. These would be an opportunity for people to drop in, have a chat and share any feedback (either by writing it down or speaking to a volunteer). Ideally we would do the same for the Chesterfield area. Thank you to those who have already volunteered to help out - if you are interested, do let us know!

**Any questions or comments?**

**Want to find out more?**

**Get in touch!**

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