# Health, Social Care and Early Years Group Welsh Government

Enhanced Monitoring
Maternity and Neonatal Services
Swansea Bay University Health Board
Ref: SBUHB/MatNeo/07/004



## **Meeting Notes**

# 18 July 2024

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Attendance and apologies were noted and reflected in the table below.

The health board provided a monthly report and slide deck for the meeting in the form of a presentation prior to the meeting.

The health board's new Director of Midwifery was welcomed into her role.

## 2. Actions from previous meeting

The note of the previous meeting was agreed.

# 3. Highlight report against key metrics

Slides were presented against the key metrics. The health board has a number of vacancies from a maternity perspective. Actions are in place to fill these vacancies including 17 streamlining midwives that will commence in September.

The recent HIW inspection resulted in an immediate assurance related to staffing, in response the number of midwives per shift has increased and now ranges between 15 and 16.

The health board provided assurance that the number of vacancies is not currently impacting on the staffing levels and that they remain birth rate compliant.

Queries were raised relating to the data presented on staffing levels. An action was raised to resubmit the staffing levels slides as well as NNAP levels.

The culture of the nursing and midwifery cohorts were discussed. It was acknowledged that the positive culture within the workforce remains a strong area of performance.

Staffing levels and skill mix continue to be measured daily. When necessary, staffing levels are increased. An action was raised for the health board to provide labour ward acuity levels at the next meeting.

The compliance with ATAIN reviews were discussed noting that only 70% of infants admitted over 37 weeks have been reviewed. The team is implementing a new process to improve compliance and aims for 100% review completion. Progress will be reported at the next meeting.

Recruitment for a replacement Neonatal Safety Support Champion is underway.

Quality and safety metrics discussed, and trends remain consistent with previous months. The health board confirmed that there were no underlying concerns or issues at this time.

Action – Slides relating to staffing levels and NNAP data to be resubmitted.

Action – Labour ward acuity levels to be presented at the next meeting.

## Reopening of community services

The reopening of the homebirth centre and community services has been delayed following concerns raised by the unions. These issues are being addressed and the health boards has worked with staff and partners in response to these concerns to facilitate the reopening of the service.

The health board confirmed that, if possible, they would gain Board approval outside of the planned meetings to ensure that this is not delayed.

## ACTION – Update on homebirth services to be provided at the next meeting.

#### 4. HIW Inspections

The health board provided assurance that internal HIW improvement and assurance meetings are held every two weeks to discuss progress and monitor actions. From the 2023 inspection, there were seven recommendations and 41 actions. Of those, 36 have been completed four are past their original target date, and two of those relate to mandatory training. The action relating to the security systems is due to go live on July 15, 2024. The health board has implemented a practice whereby no actions are signed off until they are completed and embedded into practice. It was agreed that HIW actions would continue to be reviewed at these meetings.

In relation to the 2019 inspection report, of the 26 actions 25 have been completed and one is outstanding, related to prompt training, which is scheduled for completion in September 2024.

## 5. Pathway for critical care for maternity patients

An MDT review is underway relating to the patient's outcome. To date, there is no evidence that the lack of ITU services on site were a contributing factor. The health board has a robust process of transferring patients to other sites that have ITU services. The Chair reminded the health board that a letter was sent to the Chief Executive relating to this matter which is awaiting repose. The health board confirmed that they would follow up in writing after the meeting. An action was raised for the health board to provide anaesthetic data for PROMPT

Action – Health board to respond to the Welsh Government most recent letter.

Action - Health board to share outcomes of the MDT review

Action – Health board to provide anaesthetic data for PROMPT.

## 6. Family Engagement

The health board implemented a maternity charter in May 2024. The health board had 78 nominations for midwife of the year, there have been a significant number of positive comments from service users. The health board demonstrated how it has

listened to service users and implemented 'you said, we did' service user improvements. This included feedback on pain management, which has been improved.

Whilst neonatal feedback has been positive the response rate has been low, and work needs to be undertaken in this area

Charitable funds have been used to refurbish accommodation for families who are supporting their children.

## 7. HEIW Targeted Visit Report - OG - February 2024 and July 2024

The findings from the HEIW recent visits were discussed. The health board noted that the report focussed on gynaecology services and were only partly related to obstetrics. However, the February report did indicate concerns with trainees and the health board confirmed that there are a number of ways that trainees can raise concerns and that overall feedback from trainees in maternity and neonatal services is positive. It was agreed that the health board would share the internal briefing to the Chair of the health board when it has been discussed internally.

## Action – Health board to share briefing on HEIW targeted visits

## 8. Any other business

A positive patient story was shared

Action Log				
No.	Action	Owner	Update/Deadline	
06	Slides relating to staffing levels and NNAP data to be resubmitted	Health board	10 August 2024	
07	Labour ward acuity levels to be presented at the next meeting	Health board	19 August 2024	
80	Safe pathways and patient discussion with other health boards to be discussed at the next meeting	Health board	19 August 2024	
09	Update on homebirth services to be provided at the next meeting	Health board	19 August 2024	
10	Health board to respond to Welsh Government's most recent letter	Health board	05 August 2024	
11	Health board to share briefing on HEIW targeted visits	Health board	05 August 2024	
12	Health board to share outcomes of the MDT review	Health board	19 August 2024	
13	Health board to provide anaesthetic data for PROMPT.	Health board	19 August 2024	

# Attendance

Attendance and apologies				
Health Board	NHS Executive	Welsh Government		
redacted	redacted	redacted		
redacted				
Apologies				
		redacted		
		redacted		