








Background information

Maternity Transformation Programme History

Over the last 15 years there have been an increasing number of investigations into hospitals where mums and babies had died during or after birth. The reports from the investigations all had the same themes - inadequate levels of staffing, poor team working and poor communication by staff to women.

Following the above reports, a **National Maternity Review** took place in 2015. The results of this were published as '**Better Births**' in 2016. This is the guidance that is being used all over the country to transform maternity services. It highlights 7 key themes and recommendations:-

<p>Personalised care – Care which is centred on the women, their baby and their family.</p>	<p>Personalised Care</p> 
<p>Continuity of care – Women should receive safe care, based on mutual trust. Women should have continuity of care, during pregnancy, birth and postnatally.</p>	<p>CONTINUITY OF CARER</p> 
<p>Safer care – Professionals should work together across boundaries, and patients should get the right care, in the right place, at the right time.</p>	<p>SAFER CARE</p>  <p>with professionals working together across boundaries and leadership for a safety culture</p>
<p>Better postnatal & perinatal mental health – We will work across the region to make sure that mental health services are improved and more accessible.</p>	<p>BETTER POSTNATAL AND PERINATAL MENTAL HEALTHCARE</p> 
<p>Multi-professional working – We will make sure that midwives, obstetricians and other professionals work better together. This will help us to deliver more joined up, safer and more personalised care for women and their babies.</p>	<p>MULTI-PROFESSIONAL WORKING</p> 
<p>Working across boundaries – We will organise for all stakeholders involved in maternity services to work better together across SYB and the region. This will lead to better continuity of care, safety and choice, with access to more specialised care when needed.</p>	<p>WORKING ACROSS BOUNDARIES</p> 
<p>Payment system – We will work to develop new efficient payment systems that are fair to providers, while ensuring sustainable care. This will help us to better plan and buy services that are safe and to offer the choices women want.</p>	<p>PAYMENT SYSTEM</p> 

Achieving this vision requires action from a wide range of stakeholders, who will need to work together in the form of a Local Maternity System (LMS) for South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw (SYB).

Local Maternity System

'Better Births' (2016) states: *'Providers and commissioners should operate as local maternity systems, with the aim of ensuring that women, babies and families are able to access the services they need and choose, in the community, as close to home as possible.'*

The SYB LMSs were given 2 tasks;

- The first task was to have a **shared vision for maternity services** in the form of a Maternity Plan. The plan is to be based on:
 - Understanding the local population, what people need and want
 - A gap analysis – what currently is done locally towards achieving the vision of 'Better Births'
 - Developing sustainable services with restricted funding and resources
 - Putting the right checks and systems in place to make sure that services are clinically safe and work well for staff and families (this is called 'Clinical Governance')
 - Making sure that women and their babies can access the right care, in the right place, at the right time.
- The second task is to make sure that by 2020/21 this plan has been delivered, and all the actions developed in SYB to meet the vision of 'Better Births', have been completed.