



YORK AND DISTRICT

# Maternity Voices

Working in partnership to improve maternity services

## Lay Chair, Maternity Voices Partnership (MVP)

The York and District Maternity Voices Partnership (MVP) has an exciting opportunity available and is looking to recruit a lay Chair. This Maternity Voices Partnership covers the geographical area of York, Selby, Pocklington and up to Easingwold, Helmsley and Pickering as illustrated by the map below.

### What is the Maternity Voices Partnership?

We are a group of women and their families, commissioners and professionals from local maternity services who are working together to review and contribute to the development of local maternity care.

This forum provides a mechanism for collecting ongoing and real-time feedback and aims to develop and improve maternity services with women and their families at the centre.

It provides local parents a voice about maternity care so that we can help women and their families enjoy their pregnancy journey and make sure their experience of maternity care is of high quality and personal.



Watch a short video about the York and District MVP: [https://youtu.be/9hlZ\\_dco7Is](https://youtu.be/9hlZ_dco7Is)

### The structure of the MVP

In 2016 '[Better Births](#)' set out the vision for maternity services across England to become safer, more personalised, kinder, professional and more family friendly. It also emphasised the need for services to be designed in a way which put women, their babies and their families at the centre of care.

Across the Humber, Coast and Vale, which includes the geographical areas of Hull, North and North East Lincs, East Riding, Scarborough and Ryedale and York, the Local Maternity System (LMS) helps with implementing the priorities within the Better Births plan.

One of the focal points of Better Births is hearing the personal experiences of those who are pregnant or have recently given birth and working collaboratively with them to co-design maternity services. The development of local Maternity Voices Partnerships has been structured to help support this.

Within the Humber, Coast and Vale area there are other Maternity Voices Partnerships (MVPs) that are run by lay chairs and meet once every two months to share ideas and coordinate engagement and feedback activities. The Local Maternity System (LMS) MVP group is run by a lay Chair, Ruth Prentice.

### **About the role:**

The lay chair role will involve some networking with MVP colleagues within the Local Maternity System (LMS) and ensuring that the voices of women and families local to York and District are shared. Whilst there will be some flexibility, the key deliverables of the role will be to support the MVP to seek women and families' views on the progression towards the priorities of Better Births and ensuring local opinion is shared with the Humber, Coast and Vale Local Maternity System.

We are looking for a Maternity Voices Partnership (MVP) chair who is:

- passionate about helping to develop and improve the experience of maternity services for women and their families
- keen to engage families and seldom heard groups to inform maternity services development
- a good communicator
- organised and willing and able to work flexibly
- able to chair regular meetings

### **Key responsibilities:**

#### **Main point of contact**

- Be one of the main contacts for all enquiries to the MVP
- Regularly check the MVP email Inbox and respond accordingly
- Regularly post MVP activity on any local MVP Facebook page/Twitter
- Regularly share links to the local MVP website (if applicable) and any online surveys via social media

**Attendance at formal meetings**

- Attend and chair four formal York and District MVP meetings a year
- Share attendance at the Local Maternity System MVP meetings and feedback to York and District MVP

**Ensuring we hear the voice of women and their families:**

Over the last 12 months we have focused on making the MVP more inclusive and parent friendly. We have held events in child friendly locations to encourage families to come along and give feedback. Whether it's having a stall at family day events, hosting sessions at community venues or teaming up with our community midwives we are working hard to make sure that we reach people who may not have previously had the chance to have their say. As the lay chair we would like this to continue so that we can collate a range of views from a diverse population. With the support of a local engagement lead you will be expected to:

- Seek the views of underrepresented women and their families
- Ensure consistent engagement with service users and their families and establish robust mechanisms to feed this back to the LMS MVP
- Provide inclusive opportunities to gather service user feedback, including hearing voices of the seldom heard community
- Actively encourage seldom heard voices to be involved through social media and alternating meeting in accessible venues

**Recruitment and support of service user reps**

- Support the involvement and recruitment of user representatives to the MVP
- Build the MVP virtual network
- Plan and deliver training to service user representatives where appropriate and with support of the LMS MVP
- Offer ongoing support to service user representatives
- Be involved in succession planning, mentoring other service users to ensure the sustainability of the MVP

**Networking with other MVPs**

- Actively participate on the MVP Facebook group (which includes National Maternity Voices, the group of MVP service user chairs in England)
- Be aware of the Terms of Reference of National Maternity Voices
- Actively share networking and ideas with the Vice Chair and with other MVPs in the Local Maternity System.

**MVP Representation (this part of the role will be shared with the Vice Chair)**

- Attend and contribute to maternity services meetings at the local Hospital NHS Trust

- Attend and contribute to quarterly Local Maternity System MVP meetings
- Attend and contribute to any other regional and national maternity gatherings where women's voices need to be heard and feedback to York and District MVP

**Hours:** Two days per month to be remunerated at the Patient and Public Voice (PPV) rate of £150/day, totaling £300 honorarium per month.

There is also the opportunity to recruit two chairs for this post who would work closely together. Each would conduct one day per month at rate of £150/day, totaling £150 per month.

The breakdown of duties will vary on a month by month basis and be flexible but may include:

- leading a MVP meeting (formal, user reps or feedback session),
- responding to women/maternity staff communication,
- supporting volunteers,
- networking with other MVPs,
- representing women's voices at local and regional level

### **Induction, training and support**

- Administrative support to the MVP will be provided by NHS Vale of York CCG.
- The Deputy Chief Nurse will retain the role of Vice Chair, to both support the transition into this role and provide ongoing support and contingency.
- The new chair will be entitled to a process of induction to ensure an awareness of the Local Maternity System, Better Births and relevant areas of the NHS. We will also work with the chair to identify any future training and learning needs.

### **Nolan Principles**

We would expect the lay chair to act in accordance with the [Nolan Principles of conduct in public life](#) in carrying out this role – selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty, leadership.

### **Other useful information:**

- Watch our video about the York and District MVP:  
[https://youtu.be/9hlZ\\_dco7ls](https://youtu.be/9hlZ_dco7ls)

- NHS Vale of York CCG Maternity Voices Partnership page: <https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/get-involved1/networks-and-forums/maternity-voices-partnership/>
- Humber Coast and Vale Maternity Voices Partnerships website: <https://www.maternityvoiceshcv.org.uk/york>
- Better Births report 2016: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/national-maternity-review-report.pdf>
- National maternity voices: <http://nationalmaternityvoices.org.uk/>

To apply please provide an expression of interest, stating why you would like to take on the role and your key skills and qualities to [voyccg.engagement@nhs.net](mailto:voyccg.engagement@nhs.net) by **Sunday 4 October 2020.**

If you would like more information on the role, please contact [paula.middlebrook@nhs.net](mailto:paula.middlebrook@nhs.net) , [Victoria.binks@nhs.net](mailto:Victoria.binks@nhs.net) or Ruth Prentice [n.ne.lincsmvp@gmail.com](mailto:n.ne.lincsmvp@gmail.com)