

WIGAN BOROUGH MATERNITY VOICES PARTNERSHIP



Welcome to our latest Newsletter

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The summer seems to have flown by and we are looking forward to being able to get out and about more, meeting families face-to-face and meeting more of the teams.

We have been able to make a start on meeting families in the Borough face-to-face by attending the National Play Day event at Haigh Hall in August. It was a really great day and I am looking forward to more events in the near future.

The MVP is continuing to grow - our social media pages are a great way of keeping up-to-date with all things maternity and the launch of monthly 'Thank You Thursday' on Facebook has been successful. As always, please get in touch if you have any questions, comments or concerns.



Stall at Haigh Hall
Huge thanks to TESCO Wigan for their kind donation of a prize (draw will be made to all those who gave feedback at our face to face events)



FEEDBACK FROM FAMILIES:

IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT TO SHARE SOME OF THE EXCELLENT FEEDBACK WE'VE BEEN GETTING FROM FAMILIES WITH YOU ALL, AS WELL AS FOCUSING ON WHAT WE CAN DO BETTER, SO HERE'S A SELECTION OF SOME OF THE COMMENTS RECEIVED SO FAR:

I'VE HAD BOTH MY DAUGHTERS AT WIGAN HOSPITAL. THE STAFF THERE WERE AMAZING. MY MIDWIFE WAS AMANDA. SHE WAS FANTASTIC, PARR OF THE MEADOW TEAM. WOULD DEFINITELY RECOMMEND

I HAVE BEEN UNDER THE MEADOW TEAM WITH MY SECOND LITTLE GIRL. I HAD THE MOST BEAUTIFUL HOME WATER BIRTH ON THE 17TH AND THE MIDWIVES I HAD LEADING UP TO THE BIRTH AND DURING MY LABOUR WERE ABSOLUTELY FANTASTIC. MY LABOUR WAS ACTUALLY WONDERFUL AND I CAN'T THANK THEM ENOUGH!!! XX

I HAD 2 TRICKY PREGNANCIES AND DIFFICULT BIRTHS. MY FIRST DAUGHTER WAS ON NEO NATAL. SO THE ALL ROUND CARE AT WIGAN WAS FANTASTIC. I RATE THEM HIGHLY

JULY/AUG 2021

What have we been working on?

We have continued to focus on growing the MVP and building links with both new and existing stakeholders. This has included:

- Face to face meetings with families
- Attending networking and training events
- Attending community meetings
- Presenting information about the MVP to groups, including the Wigan branch of the CAHN (Caribbean-African Health Network)
- Sourcing funding for the MVP to pay for branded marketing items and finding liaising with charitable organisations for donations
- Continuing to grow the social media presence by introducing a private group for families who want to be further involved in the work of the MVP



Current Projects:

The MVP is working on the following currently:

- Creating opportunities to attend different community events
- Continuing to prioritise networking with under-represented groups
- Providing feedback on various communications tools - for example WWL website and information leaflets
- Continuing to build opportunities for feedback, particularly through facebook.
- Planning the latest 15 steps visit (scheduled to be in September)



Future Plans:

The work we are doing is, of course, ongoing, and over the next few months we are going to be:

- Continue to develop our partnerships with stakeholders across the borough
- Find opportunities for face-to-face meetings with families
- Continuing to co-produce and contribute to the development of resources and communications tools
- Working through any new reports and recommendations and contributing as required



GENERAL FEEDBACK THEMES

In addition to the praise received for individuals and teams, some general themes have come from families and this will inform much of my work as chair over the next few months. These are:

- Covid pandemic caused issues with care
- Very helpful, supportive and friendly staff (despite being overworked)
- Communication was not always the best, arrangements for partners attending appointments/early pregnancy
- Saw lots of different midwives, felt it would be better to see the same person
- Staff need more time to be with patients so they can spot complications earlier; felt rushed out of post-natal ward as it was so busy
- Mums did not feel listened to at times
- Remote checks by health visitor because of covid – felt these would be better in person or at least on a video call (missed opportunities to improve outcomes)
- More consideration for parents who already have children with additional needs – what support is in place for them (eg who is looking after their other child(ren))? Has anyone provided emotional support?