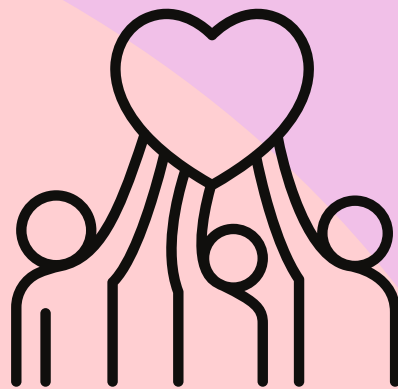


2022/23



ANNUAL REPORT

University Hospitals Sussex
Maternity Voices



"I have had the pleasure of working in partnership with dedicated service user representatives, whose confidence in their role I have seen grow and grow, with their voice get stronger and more assured, speaking up and working with the Trust."

Sharon Gardner-Blatch, Programme Director, Sussex Local Maternity & Neonatal System

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"Just to say an extra thanks for your efforts in getting the home birth service reinstated yesterday. After assuring you yesterday morning that I wasn't in labour, my labour actually started around 2pm and baby was born at 3.45pm at home. She was a bit too fast and arrived before the midwives did, but it was great to know that they were on their way and that we wouldn't have to freebirth."

- Service user

"I recently felt the need to contact the MVP for this area to feedback on my experience of maternity care. The lady I spoke with was so kind and supportive and made sure she put me in touch with the correct people at the hospital (with my consent) to try and resolve my issue. With both teams I felt heard and supported and I've had closure now. This is something you should all be proud of and it definitely made me feel more positive about any future experiences I have. Thanks." - Service User



"Just wanted to reach out and say thank you for all your hard work and tenacity earlier this year. We had a meeting with xxx today and it feels like a weight has been lifted.

It has been so healing to have answers as to why things happened the way they did, to hear what they are changing and what measures have been put in place to ensure it doesn't happen again. I feel like I can finally close this chapter and move forward, which I don't think I'd have been able to do without your help.

So thank you to you and the Maternity Voices team. You've really made an impact and are an invaluable resource. " -
Service User





Hello & welcome to our first Annual Report

Dear All,

We have had such an incredibly busy year and we cannot wait to share with you everything we have been doing in our first Annual Report. We began UHSussex Maternity Voices in April 2022 when our 2 local MVP's merged, we started with 4 co-chairs and myself as the Strategic chair. 2 of our chairs unfortunately left which was challenging, but we were able to recruit into these positions and now have a format that works really well.

Having started a fresh with our MVP we have re-created all of our systems and documents from scratch, we have created new flyers, postcards and banners to make service users aware of the MVP. We have merged and increased our presence on social media and have had a series of successful Instagram lives with the Trust that were lead by service users. We have established Feedback Friday on Instagram and have received some excellent insights on subjects that are affecting service users.

We have created a new Maternity Voices Feedback Survey, in conjunction with service users and we feel it reflects the challenges and needs in the current service and the themes we are hearing from service users. This has now been active for a month or so and we have linked it to a QR code that can be scanned for ease.

We have built up some great relationships with service users and started to form a great team of parent and community voices who have shone through brightly and ensured the service user voice is at the heart of all we do. These service users have joined us on our most recent 15 Steps and also at MVP meetings.

We have said goodbye to the pandemic (for now) and things have started to become easier now that we can all meet face to face. This ease has also been passed onto our service users who can now have more family/friends visit them when birthing within UHSussex.

We continue to push for further relaxing of visiting hours and partners being able to stay overnight with women and birthing people. This is something that has become a particular focus as need has increased from our service users.

Myself, Jordon and Hannah are all relishing our work within the MVP and we are starting to feel we know our local birthing communities and hospitals. We are honoured to hear and be a part of service users experiences and we all absolutely love the work we do within Maternity Voices.

Thanks doesn't seem enough for Jordon and Hannah as they have been such incredible, hard working co-chairs. They have both breezed through the challenges we have faced and I feel we have come together really well to support each other and service users.

I'd also like to mention Sally, Alice and Katrina who were with us at the start and have also contributed to the essence and heart of our MVP.

I'd like to express my gratitude for the support from Maternity Voices quadrumvirate, which includes our local Commissioners, (Lara & Cecily) Director of Maternity (Emma) and LMNS Programme Director (Sharon) for their ongoing support with the MVP and for making us equal partners in our MVP. Also to our 2 acting heads of Maternity (Becki & Gail) who have welcomed us with open arms into the hospitals since day one. I would love to say massive thanks to all of the midwives and maternity support staff for being open and supportive of our partnership. Also Katie Christie & Laura Spicer for being so open and supportive of the service user voice and for working so closely with us over the past year.

Finally, a massive thanks to all of the service users that have contributed to our MVP in the last year whether that be filling out a survey, attending a meeting, speaking to us about their birth experience, coming to engagement events or attending 15 Steps for Maternity. It is only with your support and input that we can create kinder, more personalised and safer maternity care. Your voice really does matter and so do you!

I cannot wait for the next year of UHSussex Maternity Voices and all that we can achieve together!

Best Wishes



Laura Naish - Strategic Chair, UHSussex Maternity Voices

A Maternity Voices Partnership (or an MVP) is a group of parents, service users, maternity services, commissioners and the Local Maternity & Neonatal System. The partnership works together to review and contribute to the development & improvement of local maternity care.

We have come together to listen to & represent the voices of & to support women, birthing people & their families in East & West Sussex who book maternity care with the UHSussex Trust, at Chichester, Worthing, Haywards Heath & Brighton & Hove hospitals.

Our Partnership includes but is not limited to:

Service users and their families, Midwives (including senior leads), heads & directors of midwifery, Infant feeding leads, Health Visitors, Maternity Support Workers, VCSE organisations/community groups, Doulas, birth workers & antenatal practitioners, Commissioners, Perinatal Mental Health Practitioners, Sonographers, Obstetricians, Safety Leads, Non-Executive Directors & Neonatal team members.

Your thoughts, your feelings,
and your voice matters to us



THE CHAIRS

[LINK TO CHAIRS BIOS](#)



LAURA NAISH
STRATEGIC CHAIR
& CO CHAIR BRIGHTON



HANNAH DALY
CO CHAIR
HAYWARDS HEATH



JORDON CLARKE
VICE CHAIR WORTHING
& CHICHESTER

"It has been a privilege being a part of the MVP for the last year, I feel as a team we have accomplished so much in such a short space of time. It has been wonderful to get to know the NHS staff, commissioners and other third party organisations, and come together to create a maternity service that has service users voice at the centre. I am excited to for what the next year brings and the achievement's we will make. "

Hannah Daly

"Joining the MVP has been an extremely rewarding experience, I feel I am starting to make a real difference to the lives of women, birthing people and their families. The Trust has been so welcoming, they value our input and have been supportive of suggestions for change and improvements. I am very excited to see what 2023/24 brings"

Jordon Clarke



THOUGHTS
&
FEELINGS

LISTENING
TO VOICES

Our primary role is to LISTEN. We listen to service user's THOUGHTS & FEELINGS about their experience of pregnancy, birth & the postnatal period.

We hear their FEEDBACK via surveys, email, listening events & meetings.

We seek out those VOICES by attending established groups in the community. We also offer SIGNPOSTING & support to service users.

- We are committed to addressing health inequalities & listening to seldom heard voices.
- We meet regularly and collaborate with the Trust to ensure these voices are heard, the feedback is passed on and any issues addressed.
- We meet at Trustwide MVP meetings with all of our MVP partners & service users Quarterly (4 times a year).
- Each Co-chair meets monthly with their local maternity teams to feedback about what we are hearing in the service.
- Co Chairs Walk the Patch at each hospital every 6 months and pass feedback onto the Trust from service users.
- We aim to complete 15 Steps at all 4 hospital sites each year.
- We hold our own in person community engagement events in order to hear service user voices.
- We hold service user led Instagram Lives in conjunction with maternity services.
- We aim to attend Trust & LMNS Board meetings to ensure the service user voice is heard at all levels.
- We have an active social media presence and interact with service users to gain feedback via Instagram Lives and Feedback Friday Events.
- We aim to have an active working parent & community voices group where we reach out for feedback and aim to actively include service users in MVP work.
- We aim to attend antenatal clinics and local parent/baby groups to get service user feedback and promote awareness of the MVP.

1.

Quarterly Trust wide MVP meetings established. ✓

2.

Updating MVP website to reflect current team, UHSussex merger, update and edit all information. ✓

3.

Updating & printing MVP promotional material including leaflets, flyers, posters and banners. ✓

4.

Social media engagement with service users and colleagues. ✓

5.

Meeting attendance with key stakeholders LMNS, NHS, Commissioners and Equity & Equality steering groups. ✓

6.

Creating an outreach & engagement events schedule for the year. ✓

7.

15 Steps for Maternity at Brighton, Haywards Heath, Worthing & Chichester. ✓

8.

Walk the Patch (in person) feedback via postnatal wards, 6 monthly. ✓

9.

Deep dives into survey information for each site. ✓

10.

Perinatal Equity & Equality work.



11.

MVP service user feedback survey updated.



1.

*Work Plan for 2022/23
80% completed*

*Outstanding Work Plan
Items 2022/23*

12.

Training for Strategic Chair & Co-Chairs.



13.

Creating a tailored survey for different birth outcomes i.e., still births & neonatal deaths, TOPFA.



Established ourselves as a new MVP team, and introduced ourselves to key stakeholders in the UHSussex Trust

- Rebranded UHSussex MVP & designed a new logo.
- Created and merged social media accounts.
- Produced new promotional material such as flyers, banners, posters and bios.
- Created new domain name for our website and updated it to reflect our current MVP. Updated our website to reflect the changes to our MVP.
- Devised an MVP 2022/23 budget and annual work plan.
- Formed an effective team who work across the week to ensure week round availability, covering social media, meetings and emails.
- Created a comprehensive asset map, showing the support and services available across the whole patch.

Engaging with service users

- Created a new online survey in conjunction with maternity services and service users. We also made some changes to use of language, gender inclusion and covid policies.
- Created an bespoke antenatal care survey to be used on visits to antenatal clinics.
- Created a way for service users to feedback about their experiences via our website, QR code or to us via email or face to face.
- Developed a new form for people to register their interest in hearing from and being part of the MVP.
- Responded to service users via email and social media, engaged with service users and listened to birth stories and feedback.
- Completion of 'Walk the Patch' at all 4 hospitals every 3 months
- Created a new facebook group for parent and community voices reps to communicate with us.
- Attended community events, parent & baby groups, libraries and community centres to listen to service users feedback.
- Hosted a series of our own listening events in the community to hear service users voices.

WORKING WITH THE TRUST



- Held meetings monthly with the Heads of Midwifery/maternity teams across all sites to feedback what we are hearing.
- Completion of 15 steps for Maternity, created reports and fed back at all 4 hospitals & to the Trust Board.
- Networking and meeting with many key stakeholders at the NHS, LMNS and Commissioners.
- Supporting the Trust with neonatal redesignation project at St Richard's (Chichester).
- Attended monthly perinatal equity and equality steering group sessions.
- Completing Enter & View with Healthwatch at Chichester, Worthing & Brighton.
- Participated the South East ICB Safety Conference, holding our own stand and speaking about the service user voice and safety within maternity services.
- Attended Ockenden Insight Visits and given our input from a service user perspective.
- Attended the South East Perinatal Sharing event.
- Contributed to celebration days, including International Day of the Midwife and Maternity Support Worker Day.
- Working with the Trust to create a postnatal discharge video to support service users & staff.
- Getting a previous loss symbol on badger notes, for all healthcare professionals to see at every appointment (to who support service users who have previously lost babies)
- Working with the Trust to increase visiting hours for service users and their families.
- Working with the Trust to create communication for service users around service suspensions.
- Working with the Trust on the induction of labour pathway.
- Working with the Trust to ensure CNST requirements are met.
- Attended Trust meetings such as the Quality and Safety meetings, HSIB, Maternity Improvement Group, Quarterly Infant Feeding Strategy Group.
- Completed 15 Steps for Maternity at all 4 sites.

15 STEPS FOR MATERNITY

[FIND OUR 2022 15 STEPS REPORTS ON OUR PADLET](#)

In May/June 2022, we carried out 15 Steps for Maternity at all 4 of our hospital sites. We took this opportunity to get to know the trust staff we would be working with and also learn the estates our service users will be using. These walk around's gave us a great insight to the service users experience and understanding of how the service operates.



Have you recently had maternity care at University Hospitals Sussex?

If so we would like you to join us on a walkaround of the maternity unit to review the space and 'feel' of the environment using the 15 Steps method

FIFTEEN STEPS FOR MATERNITY

Quality from the perspective of people who use maternity services

Join us at.....

St Richards Hospital,
Chichester, 19th June - 10-2

Worthing Hospital,
Worthing, 3rd May - 10-2

RSCH Hospital, Brighton,
21st June - 10-2

PRH Hospital,
Haywards Heath,
22nd May - 10.30-1.30

If you are interested
please DM us or email us.



Please see our padlet for our 15 steps reports



The staff were able to show us systems and areas of their hospital they were proud of, as well as discuss areas of improvement.

The Co Chairs then wrote reports on each site they visited and these were sent back to the Trust & staff and actions were agreed to move forward.

Regular meetings were set up with the Trust sites to discuss the opportunities for change that came from these reports and work together to make appropriate changes.

'QUALITY FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE SERVICE USER'

[MORE INFO ON 15 STEPS FOR MATERNITY](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA ACHIEVEMENTS



At the beginning of our first year we set up, and rebranded our social media pages. We have worked hard to grow our social media presence. We use our social media account to show our followers and service users, what we at the MVP do. We also like to show some information about what goes on "behind the scenes" we have done this by sharing reels of our engagement in the community and international day of the midwife. We have also used our social media pages to help signpost service users to local and national support, with themes including baby loss and perinatal mental health.

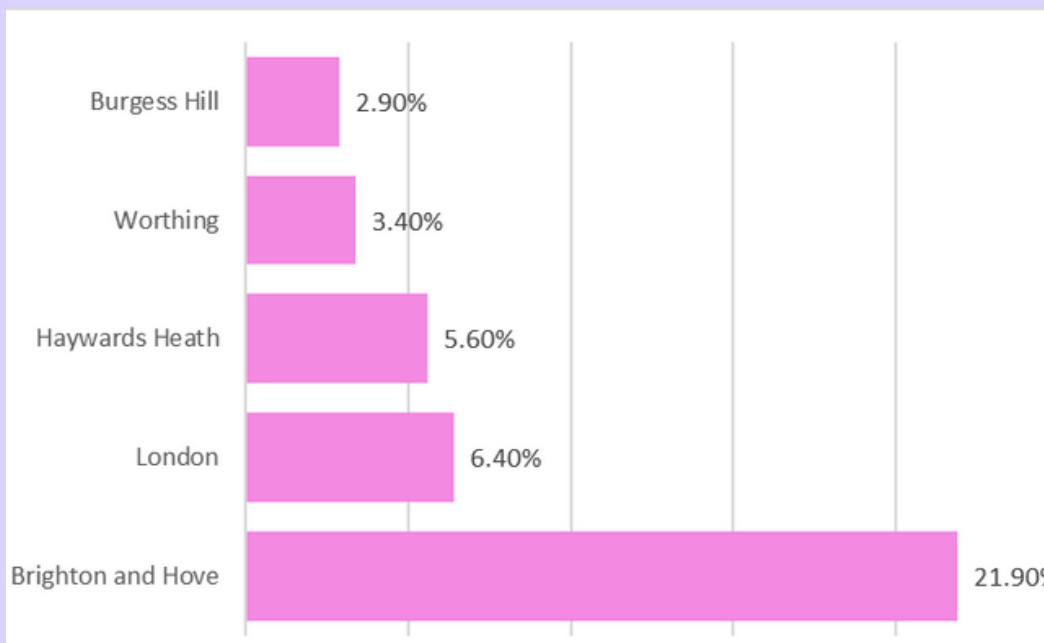
INSTAGRAM

As you can see from the chart below, our Instagram page is hitting some of our prime areas for outreach, and we plan to continue to grow our following particularly in the Chichester area over the next year.

Our largest Instagram reaches were around June 2022 (183 reach) and March 23 (161 reach).

FACEBOOK

As you can see from the chart on the next page our Facebook page is reaching a wider geographical area compared to our Instagram page, we feel the fact that we are able to share our post's in local community groups, and therefore we can reach a large and more diverse range of service users.



**We reached
11,240
people this
year**

**Over 1k
Followers**



CONNECT WITH US ON INSTAGRAM

**We reached
25,589
people**

**517
Followers**

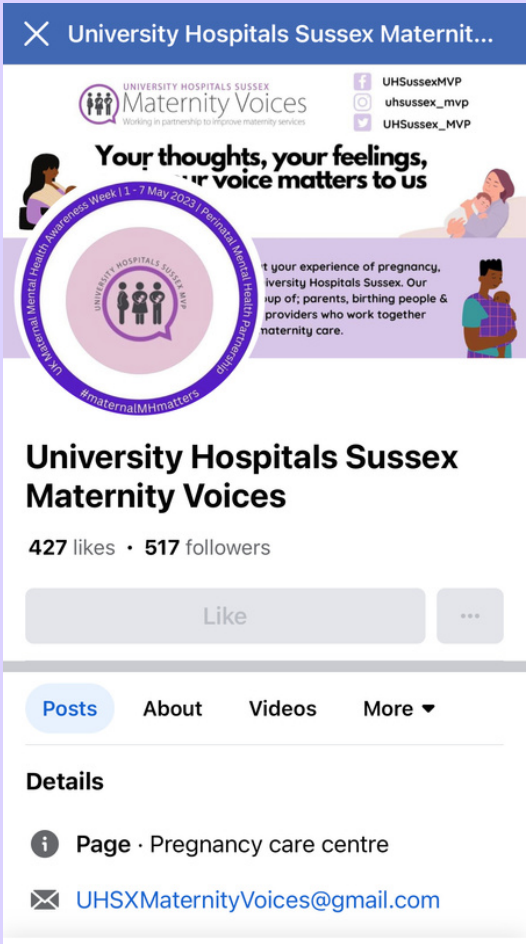
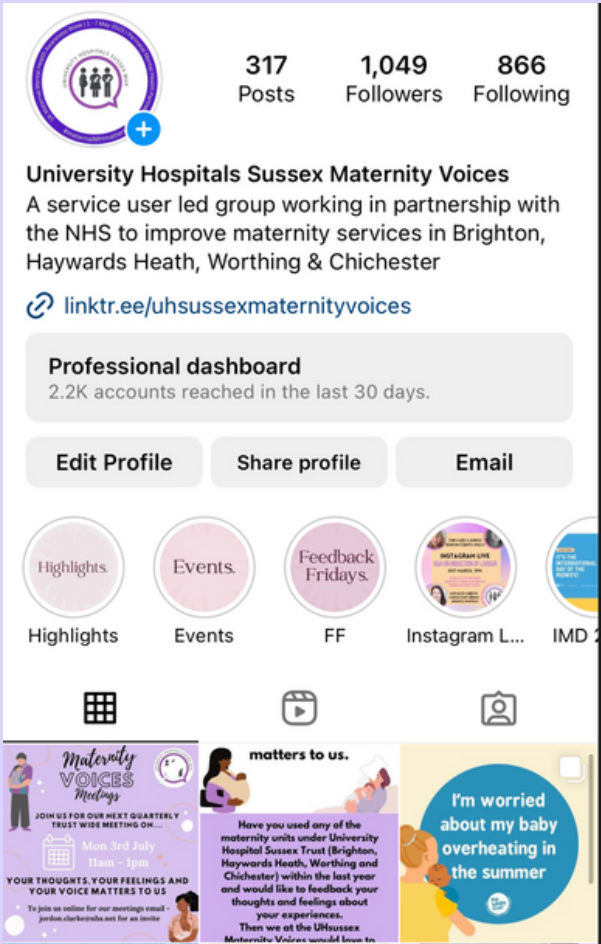


**2467
reaches in
Sept**



**24% of reaches
in Brighton &
Hove**

**Our largest Facebook reaches were around
September 2022 (3,319 reach)**



CONNECT WITH US ON FACEBOOK

FEEDBACK FRIDAY



We started using Instagram to ask service users their opinion on themes and issues within maternity services. We have called this 'Feedback Friday', it's a really quick but effective way of asking questions and gleaning opinion from service users.

Each month we base our Feedback Friday around certain theme's we are hearing from service users or around areas the Trust would like to hear the service users experience and feedback on.

We have had an excellent response rate and great input from service users so far and we will continue to use this as a feedback method.

Was your experience of induction positive/negative?

Type something...

Were the processes around induction properly explained to you?

Type something...

Were there any delays to your induction of labour?
Why was this?

Type something...

What would have made your experience of induction more positive?

Type something...

Feedback Friday
It's back!
This week we are seeking your feedback and experiences on Induction of labour or IOL.

Progress bar with smiley face icon

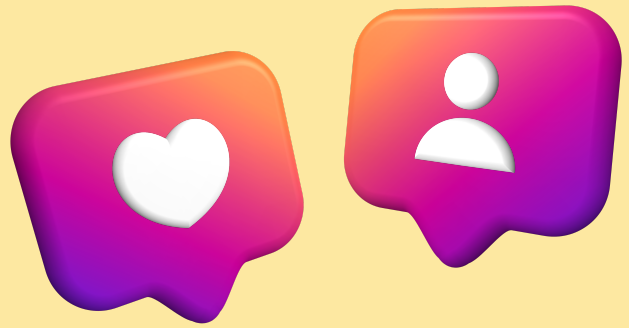
Smiley face, neutral face, and sad face icons

The answers to these questions will inform a piece of work we are coproducing with the NHS on induction of labour and will also tie in with an instagram live we have coming up at the end of March.

As always your feedback goes straight to the Trust to inform improvements to services across our maternity services.

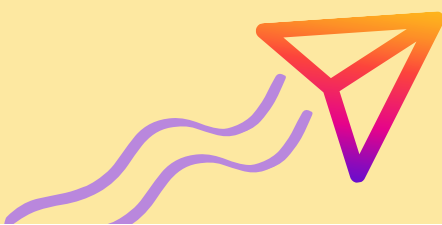
Your feelings, your thoughts and your voice matters to us.

INSTAGRAM LIVES



We felt from day 1 that service users engaged with us well on Instagram. As a very visual tool it works well to communicate in the way we need. We were invited to attend a few Instagram lives that the Trust hosted, we really enjoyed these and sharing about the MVP.

This has led to us developing our own service user led Instagram lives, we are able to choose topics that are relevant to the current service and what service users are interested in & want to hear. The lives are an opportunity for service users to pose their pre-scheduled and live questions on important issues to us and whoever we are hosting with. So far we have invited Katie Christie (consultant midwife) to support the lives but we have one coming up with a consultant obstetrician and we have lots of ideas for the future and who we can involve. We are really excited about the freedom this gives service users to speak directly to those that run the service.



JOIN LAURA & HANNAH FROM MATERNITY VOICES

INSTAGRAM LIVE

Q&A ON INDUCTION OF LABOUR

31ST MARCH, 1PM

WE WILL BE CHATTING ABOUT INDUCTION OF LABOUR & PUTTING YOUR BURNING QUESTIONS TO KATIE.

WITH KATIE CHRISTIE, CONSULTANT MIDWIFE, UHSUSSEX HOSPITALS

JOIN LAURA & HANNAH FROM MATERNITY VOICES

INSTAGRAM LIVE

Q&A ON C-SECTION

WEDNESDAY 21ST JUNE, 7PM

WE WILL BE CHATTING ABOUT PLANNED AND UNPLANNED C-SECTION & ASKING YOUR BURNING QUESTIONS TO REBECCA & KATIE FROM UHSUSSEX HOSPITALS

WITH KATIE CHRISTIE, CONSULTANT MIDWIFE & REBECCA MALICK, CONSULTANT OBSTETRICIAN AND GYNAECOLOGIST

[LINK TO OUR MOST RECENT INSTAGRAM LIVE](#)



Starting from scratch

Has been a challenge and also a great achievement, a lot of work has gone into establishing the new MVP, creating new material, relaunching the website and building a social media presence.

We are now a well established MVP and have collaborative plans for the future, we are looking forward to what this year will bring.

Staffing

Was a challenge for the first 7 months of the year, with staff leaving and recruitment for maternity cover. Long recruitment processes meant that for much of the year there was limited or no chair presence at St Richards and Worthing.

We now have a fully staffed team that work well together, with each chair contributing key skills to the partnership.

Finances

Uncertainties at the start of the year regarding the strategic chair role funding and staffing issues meant we didn't manage to use our budget by the end of the year.


We have a confirmed budget for 2023/24 and will create a work plan that allows us to maximise our capacity.

MVP Survey & Data Analysis

When we started the MVP, we inherited our feedback survey. We soon realised as much as it was detailed that it was too large for using across 4 sites and our capabilities and time capacity to analyse it was limited.

We knew the survey needed to change, be easier to access, shorter, free for us to run and simpler to analyse.

We also knew we wanted to make the survey relevant to the current service and service users needs as well as coproducing it with maternity services.

- 
- Survey moved to google forms which is free to use.
 - Comprised of less questions and plenty of space for written feedback.
 - Co-produced with feedback and service user opinion.
 - Co-produced with Core MVP quadrumvirate & maternity services.

Building Relationships & Trust

Starting off as a completely new MVP we had to build up relationships with each other as co-chairs from scratch which was challenging.

We also had to build up relationships of trust with service users. To establish ourselves in order for service users to want to share personal feedback with us.

We additionally needed to build up working relationships of trust and support with our NHS colleagues, commissioners & the LMNS.

- 
- We introduced ourselves to all of the key stakeholders early on in the partnership and made and maintained regular meetings/contact with these teams.
 - We also introduced ourselves to service users via social media and made contact with those that had submitted surveys.
 - We meet as a team in person every 6 months & online monthly.

Time and Budget

Working as a team of three chairs across different days of the week has it's difficulties in terms of available time to collaborate.

We are also limited by the practical and financial remits available to us. i.e we can only work the amount of hours we are funded for.



- We are a flexible team who are committed to making things work over video calls, whats app and email. We use evenings to ensure we have time to catchup and collaborate.
- We would always like more budget to be available and will continue to push for more finances for the MVP work we undertake to make the service user voice heard

Geographical Area

Our MVP covers a huge geographical area with large pockets of rural isolation and its hard with the hours and chairs we have to cover all of those areas in the time we have available to us.

Additionally 2 of our co chairs live outside of the areas they cover, meaning expenses are higher for travel and parking. This has also meant we had less local knowledge of those 2 areas to start with.

We have worked systematically to cover these areas within the hours we have available. Jordon and Hannah have attended many local baby groups, libraries and community centres and have done an excellent job of reaching out to areas of rural isolation.



"Working with the Sussex MVP team is brilliant. Every member of the team is passionate about representing the voices of women and people using our maternity services. The team are responsive and supportive, but happy and able to challenge and suggest change.

However focused I am on quality of experience and safety as a leader of maternity services, it is easy to get embroiled in the bureaucracy and systems, but having the MVP team speaking for service users within pivotal discussion, ensures the families we care for are always at the centre of discussions.

The team are also so compassionate and kind to our clinical teams, and have become a welcomed visitor to our units during 15 steps reviews and other visits. Thank you to the team."

**Emma Chambers, Director of Midwifery
UHSussex Hospitals**

“ It has been an absolute privilege to work with such a committed group of service user representatives who have helped to bring the voices of those using maternity services to the fore. Those voices have stimulated discussion, sparked new ideas, encouraged collaboration and informed service developments. I am really excited about what lies ahead for all of those involved with UHSx MVP. ”

Cecily Hollingworth, Senior Commissioning Manager

“ Working with the MVP has been amazing since I came into post as transformation lead. The commitment and dedication they show to support and improve the service has been invaluable. They challenge my way of thinking and the few projects we have co-produced have been positive. ”

Thank you to the whole team, I look forward to working with you over the next leg of our journey. ”

Laura Spicer, Maternity Transformation Lead



**Katie Christie, Consultant Midwife &
Professional Midwife Advocate**



“ I have really enjoyed getting to know, as well as working alongside the UHSussex MVP team. You all balance the passion of making sure women and people have a voice within our service with understanding the challenges that the midwives and the maternity teams face on a day to day basis. I am truly grateful for the work we have already produced and look forward to achieving more with you. ”



**Rebecca Elms, Head of Midwifery, Brighton &
Haywards Heath, UHSussex**

"I cannot thank the MVP enough for all their hard work. They are completely invaluable to the maternity service; they provide us with rich feedback and data from the service user. They often support us with undertaking specific surveys, to help us improve services. We have worked collaboratively on postnatal services and have been the voice of what the service user needs are and are very aware of the what the service can provide. There is a huge list of things that Laura and Hannah support and work with us. They are an inspiration and I am very thankful to them."



**Sharon Gardner-Blatch, Programme Director,
Sussex Local Maternity and Neonatal System**



It has been an exciting first year for the University Hospitals Sussex Maternity Voices Partnership (MVP), following their formation in 2022. I have had the pleasure of working in partnership with dedicated service user representatives, whose confidence in their role I have seen grow and grow, with their voice get stronger and more assured, speaking up and working with the Trust, commissioners and Local Maternity and Neonatal System at every level to bring about change. The partners of the MVP really do stand shoulder to shoulder together, around a commitment to improve maternity services, informed by pregnant and birthing people in Sussex. This coming year will see the MVP looking to strengthen how it hears all voices and how we can get more service users involved in improvements.



Lucy Bloem, Non-Executive Director, UHSussex

"University Hospitals Sussex is so lucky to have our MVP team and it really helps me in my role at Non-Executive Director Maternity Champion to have independent feedback in our services and triangulate this with what I am presented with internally. I have had the privilege of taking part in two 15 Steps reviews with the team this year, which has helped me see our services from a different perspective and the quarterly MVP reporting meetings provide invaluable insight. Thank you to the team for being so inclusive, candid and constructive."



**Lara Kiziltuna, Commissioner Senior
Planned Care Manager**



“ The MVP team is incredible locally. They are all so dedicated, compassionate and professional which makes working in partnership with them such a positive experience. It is really clear in every interaction how important the service user voice is for them and they work hard to ensure it runs through every conversation. ”



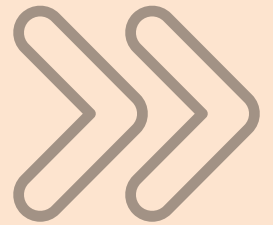
**Gail Addison, Head of Midwifery, Chichester &
Worthing**



“ I would just like to say how amazing Laura and Jordon are, they work tirelessly to improve the services for our women and their families and support us at all times.

Nothing is ever too much for them and their dedication is unmatched.

What I particularly admire is their common sense, that may sound odd but they know what is and isn't practical in our maternity world as midwives and trust us to make the right decisions, they are fab and deserve medals. ”



- Continuing with the reoccurring commitment of the MVP, including MVP Trustwide meetings, regular community engagement visits, walk the patch, 15 Steps, one to one service user contact, signposting and support for our service users, week round availability and contact via social media and email.



- Increase response rate on the new online survey across all 4 sites.
- Grow the MVP partnership by engaging and recruiting more parent and community voices including those that can volunteer in the community for us.



- Rebranding as Maternity and Neonatal Voices Partnership.
- Listening more closely to and incorporating the neonatal voice into our MVP.



- Complete 15 steps for Maternity 2023 at all 4 sites, finalise the reports and share them with the Trust.
- Conducting a 15 steps for neonatal across all 4 of the sites.



- Complete the priorities that are left from this years work plan next year.
- Training & supervision for MVP Chairs.
- Dedicated co produced and service user led survey for loss and TFMR pregnancy.

- Confirm sustainable funding for the MVP for 2024/25 and subsequent years.
- Increase funding for MVP to cover more hours per site, in order to get a wider service user reach.



- Prioritise the service user voice in terms of visiting hours and partners staying overnight.
- Push forward for meetings with the Trust and service users to obtain longer visiting hours and overnight stays for partners added as an option.



- Working to co-produce materials and information on induction of labour, informed choice for service users alongside Katie Christie.
- Working to co-produce materials and information to support service users on the postnatal ward with maternity teams and transformation midwives.



- Make improvements to postnatal care by responding to issues raised by service users.
- Breastfeeding and chest feeding support on postnatal wards increased.
- Feeding rooms made more inclusive, comfortable and inviting.



- A Midwifery Led Maternity Unit in our area remains a critical and urgent priority.
- Gathering feedback akin to this priority.



- Raising and addressing issues of informed consent in birth experiences.
- Improved awareness around women and birthing people feeling listened to in labour & birth.

The materials, reports and information referred to throughout this report can be found on our padlet -

https://padlet.com/jordon_perinatal/uhsussex-maternity-voices-partnership-93txeu772xn4vjfo

Scan for padlet



We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their contributions to this annual report. If you have any questions or would like further information about our MVP then please contact the strategic chair.

Laura Naish - laura.naish3@nhs.net

