

Cover Sheet

Trust Board Meeting in Public: Wednesday 13 January 2021

TB2021.13

Title: Ockenden Report on Maternity Services

Status: For Information

History: New Paper

Board Lead: Chief Nursing Officer

Author: Sam Foster, Chief Nursing Officer

Confidential: No

Key Purpose: Assurance

Ockenden Report on Maternity Services

1. Purpose

- 1.1. This paper summarises the essential actions recommended by the Ockenden Report into Maternity Services for the attention of the Board.

2. Background

- 2.1. On 10 December 2020 The Ockenden Report into Maternity Services at the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust was published. This report presented emerging finding and recommendations from an independent review of maternity services at the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust.
- 2.2. The full report can be found here: [Ockenden Report into Maternity Services at the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust](#)

3. Essential Actions

- 3.1. The Report includes seven essential actions which can be found on pp25-30 and are summarised below.

Enhanced Safety

- 3.2. Safety in maternity units across England must be strengthened by increasing partnerships between Trusts and within local networks.
- 3.3. Neighbouring Trusts must work collaboratively to ensure that local investigations into Serious Incidents (SIs) have regional and Local Maternity System (LMS) oversight.

Listening to Women and Families

- 3.4. Maternity services must ensure that women and their families are listened to with their voices heard.

Staff Training and Working Together

- 3.5. Staff who work together must train together.

Managing Complex Pregnancy

- 3.6. There must be robust pathways in place for managing women with complex pregnancies.
- 3.7. Through the development of links with the tertiary level Maternal Medicine Centre there must be agreement reached on the criteria for those cases to be discussed and /or referred to a maternal medicine specialist centre.

Risk Assessment throughout Pregnancy

- 3.8. Staff must ensure that women undergo a risk assessment at each contact throughout the pregnancy pathway.

Monitoring Fetal Wellbeing

- 3.9. All maternity services must appoint a dedicated Lead Midwife and Lead Obstetrician both with demonstrated expertise to focus on and champion best practice in fetal monitoring.

Informed Consent

- 3.10. All Trusts must ensure women have ready access to accurate information to enable their informed choice of intended place of birth and mode of birth, including maternal choice for caesarean delivery.

4. Trust Response

- 4.1. The Chief Nursing Officer is the executive lead for the Trust's implementation of the Report's recommendations.
- 4.2. An assessment of the Trust's compliance with the specific requirements of each of the essential actions is currently being undertaken and the Board will be updated on this work.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1. The Trust Board is asked to:
- **receive** and **note** the Ockenden Report on Maternity Services.