

Discussion document on the future
configuration of Maternity Services

Scarborough & North East Yorkshire
Healthcare Trust

November 2006

Welcome...

It is intended that this discussion document will help the Scarborough and North East Yorkshire Healthcare Trust to prepare for a full public consultation exercise on the future of Maternity Services across Scarborough, Bridlington, Malton and Whitby. In preparing for that formal consultation we wish to involve and consult our local people and stakeholders on the provision of Maternity Services in this large rural patch and how this should develop in the future.

We believe now is the time to consider in more detail the future service configuration of maternity Services for the following reasons:

- current health policy thinking on patient choice and home births,
- an increasing focus on the need to review services to ensure they are safe and sustainable, and fit for the future,
- current changes to the training of medical staff and reducing the number of hours junior doctors work
- the recent merger of Primary Care Trusts to form the North Yorkshire and York PCT, with a stronger commissioning focus

Maternity Services are currently commissioned largely by North Yorkshire and York PCT and the East Riding of Yorkshire PCT; it is important that the maternity services provided across the community and at the Hospital work in collaboration.

We value the contribution that you can make in helping to shape proposals and options for consideration in our forthcoming consultation.

Our formal consultation process will take place from December 2006 through to March 2007 and we will aim to give people affected by any proposal or who wish to comment on proposals sufficient information to understand our proposals.

The consultation document will be put together taking into account feedback we receive to the early thoughts which have been presented in this document and we hope that you will use this opportunity to tell us your views and influence the shape of the proposals that we will put forward for public consultation.

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Introduction

- 1.1 Scarborough & North East Yorkshire Healthcare Trust in collaboration with previously Scarborough Whitby and Ryedale PCT and the previous North East Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire Strategic Health Authority has historically considered a range of strategic options for the clinical configuration of Maternity services across Scarborough and North East Yorkshire.
- 1.2 The trust has now given priority to seeking views and comments on the potential future configuration of Maternity Services across this large geographical patch in preparation for a full public consultation exercise on the future configuration of Maternity services across Scarborough and North East Yorkshire.
- 1.3 There is also the potential for acute and community services to work together in a much more integrated way avoiding confusion and duplication; and providing a better service to patients.
- 1.9 We need to deploy our resources in a more efficient and equitable way, thereby making the best use of medical and technological advances. This supports the trust in delivering better care and support more conveniently for the local population.
- 1.10 We want to identify with the public, service users, staff and partners what service can be provided to Maternity patients and how these should be configured.

Purpose

- 2.1 The purpose of this document is to provide a background briefing on:
 - the existing configuration of maternity services and the policy context for the reconfiguration of maternity services,
 - benefits and constraints for the future maternity services provided at Scarborough, Bridlington, Malton, and Whitby Hospitals and proposed objectives,
 - some early thoughts on the potential areas for development and reconfiguration.
- 2.2 The Scarborough & North East Yorkshire Healthcare Trust is seeking views on the issues we should be exploring as part of the formal public consultation exercise and as such hope you find this document helpful.

Process

- 3.1 Formal Public Consultation needs to commence in early December 2006. Subject to feedback generated from this discussion document draft proposals will be submitted to the Scarborough & North East

Yorkshire Healthcare Trust Board. These draft proposals will also need to be submitted to a meeting of the North Yorkshire County Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

- 3.2 Scarborough & North East Yorkshire Healthcare Trust has a robust relationship with the Patient and Public Involvement Forum and has an established programme of patient and public involvement within some areas of the Trust's services.
- 3.3 The process we will follow consists of two phases:
 - Phase 1 Involvement (including this document)
 - Phase 2 Formal Public Consultation

Phase 1 - Discussion

- 4.1 This phase builds upon internal discussions with midwives, consultants and General Practitioners from meetings with PPI forum (SWR PCT). The ideas and views within this document have been developed in response to feedback received from the above.
- 4.2 A series of questionnaires have been developed to ascertain current thinking of service users and the public and NCT, and will offer the opportunity for those groups to give their comments and ideas. This will allow us to consider and include a range of options in the formal consultation process.
- 4.3 It is planned to circulate questionnaires to a range of stakeholders including National Childbirth Trust; Ante and Post natal mothers across North East Yorkshire; Surestart groups and the Local Medical Committee.

Phase 2 – Public Consultation

- 5.1 Scarborough & North East Yorkshire Healthcare Trust PCT intends to start a formal public consultation in December 2006, concluding in March 2007. The consultation will enable all interested parties to express their views and state their preference on the future of Maternity Services in Scarborough and North East Yorkshire and in the East Riding of Yorkshire.

Background to review

- 6.1 Scarborough and North East Yorkshire Healthcare NHS Trust Maternity Services provide a range of maternity, obstetric and special baby services to one of the largest geographical areas in England, within the complexity of Scarborough and North East Yorkshire Healthcare NHS Trust contrasting populated and isolated geographical areas.

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- 6.2 The majority of service provision is based at Scarborough District General Hospital, with midwifery-led services provided at three peripheral units (Bridlington, Whitby & Malton Hospital). Of the 1,650 women who deliver with the Maternity Services each year, 1,470 deliver at Scarborough District General Hospital and between 25-30 choose to have a home birth. The peripheral units deliver in the region of 150 babies per year.
- 6.3 Maternity Services aim to provide high quality, women-centred care and treatment, meeting the individual needs of women and their families from the time of booking until transfer to the Health Visiting Team.
- 6.4 This is achieved by complying with recognised standards of good practice and is provided by a committed team of four Consultant Obstetricians, hospital-based midwives, one team of community midwives and three teams of integrated peripheral-unit midwives.

Why review and potentially change services?

- 7.1 The Trust is currently looking at organisational change and reconfiguration of the way we provide services considering the efficiency and effectiveness of peripheral units.
- 7.2 The delivery of intra-partum care at the Midwifery led units causes concern due to their geographical distance from main maternity units in Scarborough, York and Middlesbrough which are able to offer emergency obstetric care should an emergency arise.

Potential benefits to reviewing services

8.1 Quality

- To ensure provision of safe, high quality services
- To ensure the service delivers the best possible health outcomes for both mother and baby.
- To improve patient experience
- To provide better continuity of care

8.2 Access

- To reduce inequalities in service provision, improving access to the service in rural settings
- To focus on those families which have the potential for social exclusion
- To create a service which enables local clinicians, hospital and primary care to work together to deliver a modern maternity service.

- To improve intra-partum care, reducing the number of different locations that patients have to go to for delivery.
- To support the delivery of national performance targets

8.3 Sustainability

- To improve the recruitment and retention of staff across all disciplines through enhancing roles and providing new opportunities
- Improved job satisfaction with better continuity
- Improved multi-disciplinary team working

8.4 Affordability

- To work with the PCT to reduce duplication and optimise the effective use of resources across the health and social care community
- Improved efficiency of the service

8.5 Potential constraints to changes in the reconfiguration of Maternity Services

- Services provided must ensure patient and staff safety through the provision of clinically appropriate care
- Transport and rural access to health care is a problematic issue for patients and must be taken into account (Potentially an additional 150 women will have to travel to Scarborough or another hospital to deliver (although most of these women will be eligible for a home delivery))
- The services provided must fit with the availability of clinical professionals, health service staff and available health service equipment and facilities
- Some women may have to travel further for ante natal care
- Potential impact on workload for York District Hospital, James Cook and the Friarage Hospital midwifery services.
- Potential for reduction of income from this service reconfiguration
- Redeployment of staff between hospital and community
- Potential redeployment of staff from peripheral units
- Potential for medicalisation of maternity care

Proposed services to be provided at Scarborough Bridlington Malton and Whitby

- 9.1 The proposed vision for delivery of midwifery services is to provide midwifery teams offering a family centred approach which provides a multi-disciplinary partnership to all aspects of maternity care.
- Continue to provide a home birth service offering women one to one midwifery care.
 - Provide a named midwife for ante-natal and post-natal care
 - Continue to provide consultant ante-natal clinics
 - Continue to provide an ultrasonography service
 - Provide choice on place of delivery offering a midwifery led delivery in Scarborough (or a neighbouring Hospital in York or Middlesbrough)

What happens next?

- 11.1 The views, comments and ideas presented to the Trust on this discussion document over the coming weeks will play an important role in ensuring we consider and develop options for inclusion within the formal public consultation from December 2006.
- 11.2 The formal consultation proposals will be discussed by the Scarborough and North East Yorkshire Healthcare Trust at a public board; ideally, prior to the start of the formal consultation period a meeting will be held with the North Yorkshire County Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

In person At the main reception of the Scarborough Hospital; or to the Midwife Unit at, Bridlington, Malton or Whitby Hospital.

Online An electronic copy of this booklet and feedback form can be found on the trust website

Email contactus@acute.sney.nhs.uk

Discussion document on a future configuration of
maternity services

Feedback Form

1. Please indicate your gender and age range by putting a cross (X) in the appropriate box below:

Male	Female	
Under 20	20 to 29	30 to 39
40 to 49	50 to 64	65 and over

2. Are there any parts of the proposed services model which are unclear to you? If yes, please provide details.

3. Do you agree with the range of services described in the proposals for maternity services? If not, please provide details of the changes that you would like to see.

4. We have provided an assessment of the constraints faced in developing proposals for the future of maternity services. Taking these into account, are there any additional views or ideas you would wish the Trust to consider in developing maternity services?

5. What do you value most in relation to maternity services? Please rank the following in your priority order (1 being the most important and 4 being the least important).

Rating (1 – 4)

Area of value

Quality and safety

Accessibility

Affordability

Sustainability

6. Would you consider delivery of your baby in the main unit if cared for by a known midwife?

7. If you had a named midwife for antenatal and postnatal care would you be prepared to travel to another unit for the delivery of your baby?

8. If there were no facilities to deliver at your local unit would you consider a home birth?

9. Please take this opportunity to provide us with any other views or comments on this document.

Thank you for taking the time to provide us with your views.

When you have completed this feedback form, pull it out of this document and hand it to main reception of the Scarborough Hospital; or to the Midwife Unit at, Bridlington, Malton or Whitby Hospital. Alternatively, complete it and return to us by noon on Thursday 30th November at the address below:

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Scarborough
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