Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000

**Request Ref: NGFOI 16/17: 640**

Thank you for your request for information received at Northampton General Hospital NHS Trust (NGH) on 10 March 2017 and I am pleased to be able to provide you with a response.

*Information for the period 1ˢᵗ July 2016 to 31ˢᵗ December 2016*

1. *For the period 1st July 2016 to 31st December 2016, when did your Trust Board last review, as an agenda item, the midwifery staffing establishment for your Trust's maternity services?*

25ᵗʰ August 2016

2. *What were the main findings of this review?*

1:1 care in labour was consistently provided. Ward establishments were correct for each area and that the Operational Manager was effective in ensuring staff were redeployed to cover areas of high acuity/activity without compromising safety. The overall assurance assessment was that there was 'substantial assurance' around the processes in place to ensure safe midwifery staffing

3. *What if any recommendations did the review make about midwifery staffing?*

The Maternity Annual Establishment Review Programme will include a full analysis of current and proposed working models to meet the requirements of the Maternity Specification and support the Government's vision for maternity services as set out in the Better Births – Five Year Forward View for Maternity Services

4. *What decisions did the Board make in relation to any recommendations arising from the review?*

The recommendation was acknowledged by the Board

5. *Please specify the name of any workforce planning tool that was used to inform the review?*

The maternity services used a combination of Birthrate Plus, NICE guidance and professional judgement to inform the review

6. *Did the review include analysis of any midwifery red flag events that may have occurred in this period?*

The report provided assurance around the process for identification, reporting and monitoring Red Flag midwifery events rather that an analysis of the events that occurred during the period covered by the report. The Nurse/Midwifery Staffing Group review all the Red Flag midwifery events monthly and action accordingly.

7. *If so, how many and what type of midwifery red flag events were reported to the Board?*

N/A

8. *During this period how many red flag events were initially reported by service users and how many by maternity services staff?*

6 Midwifery Red Flag incidents reported by staff – all Delayed care

9. *What if any actions did the Board agree on in response to the reported midwifery red flag events?*

No action required

10. *Did the Head of Midwifery or Director of Midwifery present to the Board in person as part of the review?*

The report was presented by the Director of Nursing, Midwifery & Patient Services

**Information for the period 1st January 2016 to 30th June 2016**

11. *For the period 1st January 2016 to 30th June 2016, when did your Trust Board last review, as an agenda item, the midwifery staffing establishment for your Trust's maternity services?*

A report was not presented to the Trust Board during this period, however the Director of Nursing, Midwifery & Patient Services presents a monthly Safe Nurse Staffing Report (which includes midwifery staffing) to the Workforce Committee (sub Committee of the Board)

12. *What were the main findings of this review?*

N/A

13. *What if any recommendations did the review make about midwifery staffing?*

No recommendations

14. *What decisions did the Board make in relation to any recommendations arising from the review?*

N/A

15. *Please specify the name of any workforce planning tool that was used to inform the review?*

The maternity services used a combination of Birthrate Plus, NICE guidance and professional judgement to inform the review

16. *Did the review include analysis of any midwifery red flag events that may have occurred in this period?*

The Nurse/Midwifery Staffing Group review all the Red Flag midwifery events monthly and action accordingly

17. *If so, how many and what type of midwifery red flag events were reported to the Board?*

N/A

18. *During this period how many red flag events were initially reported by service users and how many by maternity services staff?*

3 Midwifery Red Flag incidents reported by staff – all delayed care

19. *What if any actions did the Board agree on in response to the reported midwifery red flag events?*

N/A

*20. Did the Head of Midwifery or Director of Midwifery present to the Board in person as part of the review?*

The report was presented by the Director of Nursing, Midwifery & Patient Services