

Engagement Assurance Committee Cover Sheet

Item 3 Enclosure C

Title:	Pelvic Health Engagement
Meeting Date:	23 January 2024
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Purpose of paper:	To describe the engagement process for the Perinatal Pelvic Health Service. South East London is an Early Implementer Site (EIS) for this Long-Term Plan Maternity Project.	Update / Information	X
		Discussion	X
		Decision	
Summary of main points:	<p>South East London serves as an EIS (Early Implementer Site) for Perinatal Pelvic Health Services (PPHS). This paper explains why pelvic health is crucial during the perinatal period (before, during, and after birth). It outlines the steps taken by the Local Maternity and Neonatal System (LMNS) to incorporate the views and feedback from women and birthing people as part of this pilot.</p> <p>The document discusses the national and local context and drivers, emphasising the importance of engaging with diverse groups in the local community to understand their needs and raise awareness of pelvic health conditions. Our engagement efforts revealed that, for some women, it is challenging to discern the available support services. Additionally, some women considered incontinence after childbirth as normal or felt embarrassed about their symptoms.</p> <p>The engagement work also highlighted a lack of understanding and confusion about the roles of healthcare professionals, such as distinguishing between a health visitor and a midwife, especially within certain groups. Information accessibility for non-English speaking women emerged as another significant challenge. Finally, for women who managed to discuss the issue with healthcare professionals, some reported receiving inadequate advice or support.</p> <p>The feedback gathered during the engagement sessions informed the development of the PPHS pilot. This pilot is also featured as a case study in the National Implementation Guidance for the launch of the National Perinatal Pelvic Health Services, expected in April 2024.</p>		
Potential Conflicts of Interest	None		

Relevant to the following Boroughs	Bexley	X	Bromley	X
	Greenwich	X	Lambeth	X
	Lewisham	X	Southwark	X
	Equality Impact	Data highlighted that a disproportionate amount of Asian women experience tears in labour. Data shows that a disproportionate rates of still birth between Black and White women and birthing people. This informed the engagement work that took place.		
	Financial Impact	None		
Other Engagement	Public Engagement	The paper outlines the engagement that has taken place.		
	Other Committee Discussion/ Engagement			
Recommendation:	The Committee is asked to read and note the report.			