

Health and Adult Social Care - 17th July 2012

The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust
Maternity capping

INFORMATION PAPER

1.0 Purpose of Report

To update the Committee on progress since the report presented in January 2012.

2.0 Background

Previous papers have discussed the requirement to restrict our maternity bookings to ensure we continue to provide safe, effective care for women and their babies.

Black Country Commissioning Cluster agreement and support received in implementing booking restrictions for financial year 2012/13.

3.0 Update

- Restricting referrals to Russells Hall Hospital from a number of Sandwell practices that reside closer to City Hospital has begun to show a positive impact with less Sandwell deliveries.
- Overall births per month did begin to show a small decline for a 3 month period but peaked again during May.
- Sandwell births show gradual decline over 5 months, however Dudley births appear to be slowly increasing, causing an overall peak back up to 424 births delivered in May 2012.
- Additional midwife recruitment is underway.
- Maternity Unit Expansion Business Case is awaiting final estates costs to be completed for presentation to Directors in the autumn. Due to high estates overheads and the new maternity tariff income, initial calculations indicate the need for internal alterations to the existing estates footprint in order to satisfy capacity to meet demand, deliver best practice guidelines and achieve financial balance.

4.0 Recommendation

For information

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