

## Review of the Maternity Support Workers (MSW) education programme and development of resources for the MSW role

### Fifth meeting of the Steering Group

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 10.00pm via Zoom Platform

**Present:**

Fionnuala McCluskey, Midwifery Support Officer (Co-Chair) DoH	FMcC
Heather Watson, Midwifery Support Officer (attending obo Dr Dale Spence, (DOH)	HWa
Helen Weir, Head of Midwifery, NHSCT	HW
Shirley Stronge, Senior Education Manager, CEC	SS
Lynn Irwin, HR Manager, Vocational Workforce Assessment Centre, SHSCT	LI
Maureen Miller, Head of Midwifery, WHSCT	MM
Valerie Porter, Head of Midwifery, SEHSCT	VP
Karen Murray, NI Director, RCN	KM
Wendy Clarke, Head of Midwifery, SHSCT	WC
Fiona Bradley Senior Professional Officer, Project Lead, NIPEC	FB
Linda Woods, Administrative Assistant, NIPEC (note taker)	

**Apologies:-** Dawn Ferguson, Interim Assistant Director of Nursing, Workforce and Education (Co-Chair) SHSCT  
 Dr Alison Little, Midwife Consultant, PHA  
 Dale Spence, Midwifery Officer, DoH  
 Anne Shine, HR Forum  
 Monica Johnston, Staff Tutor, OU

Agenda Item	Notes	Action by
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome and introductions</b> FMcC welcomed everyone to the fifth meeting of the MSW Steering Group.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Apologies</b> Noted as above	
<b>3</b>	<b>Previous notes (16<sup>th</sup> June 2022) and associated actions</b>  The notes from were agreed as an accurate reflection of the meeting and all actions were noted as being completed with the MSW competencies and core duties remaining as a standing item on the agenda. FB fed back that the updated Equality and Human Rights screening template was forwarded to the BSO Equality Unit for approval. If this is successful it will be uploaded on to the BSO website for public viewing and a link to this template will be hosted on the NIPEC website. FB to keep group informed.	FB
<b>4</b>	<b>HSC Trust representation at meetings</b>  FMcC thanked everyone for their attendance at the meetings and reminded everyone of the importance of attending, as there needs to be discussion and a consensus made on key issues within this work.	

<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Feedback from MSW Working Group (21<sup>st</sup> July 2022)</b></p> <p>HW gave feedback from the last MSW Working Group held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022.</p>	
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>Scoping tool for core duties of MSW</b></p> <p>FB presented the most up-to-date Scoping Tool for the Core Duties of MSW (21/07/22) and took the group through a number of the core duties that the education sub group required further clarification and agreement on - as training could not always be provided by the SHSCT Vocational Workforce Assessment Centre or the Clinical Education Centre, but required input from the HSC Trusts. Please see Appendix 1. for the list of core duties that were discussed.</p> <p>FMcC reminded the group that because the core duties were agreed as part of the role of the MSW – this would mean that all MSWs will be required to receive all of the training provided within the programme regardless of where they are working within clinical practice.</p>	
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>Consider corporate mandatory training requirements before the programme begins</b></p> <p>Agreement was made that if there were areas of Corporate Mandatory training that the MSW needed to complete or update in – this could be completed alongside completing the MSW programme.</p>	
<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>Model to deliver MSW education programme</b></p> <p>FMcC confirmed that the new MSW education programme would not be ready for the September intake and that it would be prudent to continue with the current education programme. Members agreed with this way forward.</p> <p>FMcC suggested that a recommendation from this work would be to complete a training needs gap analysis to identify any outstanding differences between the old programme and the new programme.</p>	
<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>Consideration of career pathway for MSWs</b></p> <p>Consideration of a career pathway for MSWs needs to be looked at alongside moving forward. FB had discussed this with Dr J. McNeill who would explore this further.</p>	
<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>Next Steps</b></p> <p><u>Programme of Work</u></p> <p>FB presented the Programme of Work on screen and indicated that the Working Group are looking at regional job descriptions for Senior Nursing Assistants. HW to send Regional MSW Job Description to FB.</p> <p>Good progress is being made on the Programme of Work.</p> <p>The next meeting date is Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022 and it was agreed two more future dates will be sought in October and November.</p>	<p>LW to trawl future dates</p>

11	<b>Dates &amp; times of future meeting</b>  Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 10.00-12.00	
12	<b>Any other Business</b>  FMcC closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.	
<b>Action</b>		<b>Comment</b>
		<b>Completed/ On-going</b>
FB to keep group informed when Equality and Human Rights Screening template is uploaded on to BSO platform		FB
Future dates in October and November 2022 to be sought		LW