

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

Sixth meeting of the Steering Group

Friday 16th September 2022 at 10.00pm via Zoom Platform

Present:

Dawn Ferguson, Assistant Director of Nursing & Midwifery, Workforce and Education (Co-Chair) SHSCT	DF
Heather Watson, Consultant Midwife, Deputy Head of Midwifery, BHSCT	HWa
Helen Weir, Head of Midwifery, NHSCT	HW
Shirley Stronge, Senior Education Manager, CEC	SS
Brenda McClafferty, Lead Midwife obo Maureen Miller, Head of Midwifery, WHSCT	MM
Valerie Porter, Head of Midwifery, SEHSCT	VP
Wendy Clarke, Head of Midwifery, SHSCT	WC
Brenda Kelly, Head of Midwifery, BHSCT	BK
Anne Shine, HR Forum	AS
Janine Stockdale, Lecturer, QUB	JS
Maura McKenna, Trade Union Co-ordinator	MMcK
Fiona Bradley Senior Professional Officer, Project Lead, NIPEC	FB
Linda Woods, Administrative Assistant, NIPEC (note taker)	

Apologies:-

Aislinn McAlister, WPD Representative
 Lynn Irwin, HR Manager, Vocational Workforce Assessment Centre, SHSCT
 Dr Alison Little, Midwife Consultant, PHA
 Karen Murray, NI Director, RCN
 Dr Jenny McNeill, Lead Midwife for Education/Senior Lecturer
 Monica Johnston, Staff Tutor
 Fionnuala McCluskey, Midwifery Support Officer (Co-Chair) DoH
 Anne Speed, Head of Bargaining and Representation
 Dale Spence, Midwifery Officer, DoH

Agenda Item	Notes	Action by
1	Welcome and introductions DF welcomed everyone to the sixth meeting of the MSW Steering Group. Thanks were given for attendance.	
2	Apologies Noted as above	
3	Previous notes (28th July 2022) and associated actions The notes of the meeting on the 28 th July 2022 were agreed as an accurate record and all associated actions were completed. FB will inform the Group of the link to the BSO website when the the Equality and Human Rights Screening template has been published.	FB

<p>4</p>	<p>Feedback from MSW Working Groups (11 August 2022 and 24th August – (not quorate))</p> <p>HWe indicated that the WG Meeting on the 24th August 2022 was not quorate but an extraordinary meeting was held instead.</p> <p>HWe gave an update on both the Working Group meeting held on the 11th August and the extraordinary meeting held on the 24th August as follows: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FB met with MMcK and MCaddell to progress work on the MSW Job Description • Gillian Morrow has returned to her substantive post and FB is contacting the PHA for replacement member. • Agreement was made that the learning outcomes of the RQF Unit 6738, Cleaning, decontamination and waste management are covered in the Trust’s mandatory training, therefore it will not be necessary to include this unit within the MSW education programme • The next WG meeting will be beginning work on the Standards for the MSW. 	
<p>5</p>	<p>Feedback from Heads of Midwifery re: education requirements for outstanding MSW core duties</p> <p>FB shared on screen comments fed back by the Heads of Midwifery and identified points that still required clarification and agreement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality 2020 training, Information Governance, Infection Control and Manual Handling – agreed that these are all part of Corporate Mandatory training in all Trusts • ‘Infant feeding Training’ – all Trusts agreed to provide this training in-house. • ‘Assist in basic life support measures of the infant’ - was discussed at length with agreement that this will need further exploration and consultation with the resuscitation officers to agree what are the expectations within the MSW role in regards to assisting in basic life support measures of the infant, especially if the MSW is working on her own within a community setting. Currently some Trusts provide neonatal resuscitation within their PROMPT training but this is within the acute setting with the MSW takes direction from the registered midwife. • ‘Take infant capillary blood samples for glucose estimation’ - it was agreed that the NBBSS co-ordinator was not the appropriate person to teach MSWs this skill and that a set of competencies should be developed and training/assessment completed by a registered midwife • ‘Physiological Observations of the Infant’ - Competencies should be developed and training/assessment completed by a registered midwife • ‘Continuity of Midwifery Carer’ – to invite PHA onto each education programme to provide update/overview of CoMC to MSWs • ‘Support the midwife by assisting with theatre duties and aspects of instrumental delivery’ – after lengthy discussion it was agreed that preparation and education for theatre duties should not be part of MSW education programme and that Trusts should each make their own local arrangements in respect of preparing MSWs to work in theatre. <p>J. Stockdale to share skills document</p>	<p>FB</p> <p>JS</p>

6	<p>Feedback from Education Group FB reported that L. Irwin and S. Trouton are continuing to work on the RQF Units and a final progress report will be ready for the next Working Group meeting on the 29th September 2022.</p>	
7	<p>MSW Job Description FB, M. Caddell and M. McKenna had previously met to progress the draft Job Description.</p> <p>FB presented the Job Description for discussion and it was agreed the term 'person-centred' should be used.</p> <p>FB highlighted some of the changes that were made to the JD by the Working Group and urged the Steering Group to read this in their own time.</p> <p>Discussion and agreement were made to the Job Specification with the addition of 'at least 6 months experience of working within a maternity health care environment' added into the desirable criteria.</p> <p>FB will make the agreed changes to the MSW JD and send out to Group for comment.</p>	FB
8	<p>The MSW model – going forward DF asked members to consider the new MSW model taking into consideration the importance of quality assurance and governance. Whilst this is not part of this project, it would be important to think about the different options to influence and support the future model.</p>	All
9	<p>Next Steps As discussed above.</p>	
10	<p>Dates & times of future meeting</p> <p>Tuesday 11th October 2022: 3pm – 5pm Friday 25th November 2022: 2pm – 4pm</p>	
12	<p>Any other Business No other business at this time.</p>	
Action		Comment
Inform the Group of the link to the BSO website when the Equality and Human Rights Screening template has been published		FB
Seek guidance from Resuscitation Officers re MSW role in neonatal resuscitation		FB
Share skills document		JS
FB will update the MSW Job Description and send out to members for comment		FB
All members to consider options for the future new MSW Model and how it would work		All