

RECOMMENDATIONS

We gathered feedback throughout the day on the current situation and future development of our home birth service. These have fed into key recommendations for local maternity providers and commissioners to take forward:

- 1: Establish a model of care that will provide a reliable and sustainable home birth service that is available 24/7/365 to all women who request a home birth.
- 2: To increase skills and confidence of service providers and their staff to deliver a safe and supportive home birth service.
- 3: That local maternity services hold further engagement events with service-users whose voices are seldomly heard or easily ignored. In doing so, working towards culturally competent maternity care that empowers people from all parts of the community.
- 4: Ensure choice of place of birth is communicated to service-users using the principles of informed decision making, awareness of up-to-date evidence and personalisation.
- 5: Create a suite of information resources to share with families about home births, which will share the facts and promote the new service.



SHARED LEARNING

What went well? Social media was a valuable tool in publicising the workshop. There was clear support from the attendees at the workshop which has kickstarted plans for a dedicated and reliable home birth service to be developed. As a coproduction tool, WhoseShoes? was well received by the stakeholders and has the potential to be used for future events.

Things to consider: This was a large event with 70 participants. Room hire and creche facilities were very costly. Future engagement events like this would benefit from exploring smaller opportunities in free of charge community spaces.