

Including listening in decision making groups. LMNS. Dec 2024

NENC Local Maternity and Neonatal System (LMNS) Service user involvement

The North East and North Cumbria has a Local Maternity and Neonatal System (LMNS). A LMNS is a partnership of people involved in maternity and neonatal services. People work together to make services better. They want services to be:

- safer,
- more personal, and
- kinder to people who use them.

Our LMNS involves people in lots of ways. There are three different roles for people who want to work with the LMNS.

1. Service User Voice (SUV) Leads
2. Maternity and Neonatal Voices Partnerships (MNVP) Lead
3. Patient and Public Voice (PPV) Partners

"As an MVP we can account that the Equity and Equality paper is a great example of true coproduction. We were able to share our concerns and our experience, derived from our service users to be used to influence and inform the creation of the plan. We are pleased that it is being upheld as a working document that will be a guideline to all to better integrate and ensure equality for all across the maternity service."

Stefanie Robinson-Hoyle, Chair South Tees Maternity Voices Partnership



For more information: [Local Maternity and Neonatal Systems \(LMNS\) North East and North Cumbria Local Maternity Systems Northern England](#)

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Service User Voice (SUV) Leads

2 members of the public are members of the LMNS Board. They make sure the Board considers what other people think. This includes from women, their families, and carers.

The Board supports maternity and neonatal services across the North East and North Cumbria. They also support the Maternity and Neonatal Voices Partnership Leads. And the LMNS Project Management Office and the Clinical Leadership team.

Maternity and Neonatal Voices Partnerships (MNVP) Lead

There are 10 Maternity and Neonatal Voices Partnerships (MNVP) who support the LMNS. MNVPs work with their local hospitals. They make sure that everyone who supports maternity and neonatal care work together. People who become Leads represent other people who have used the service. They share feedback and make the MNVP considers what people have said. They help Trusts to deliver the right service.

They want to make sure people from all backgrounds have the right care. This includes women from black, Asian, and mixed ethnic backgrounds. And people from deprived backgrounds. We know these groups are more likely to experience health inequalities and poorer results. MNVPs make sure the LMNS works with people from all backgrounds. They make sure people from all backgrounds are part of all key decision-making groups.

Patient and Public Voice (PPV) Partners

The LMNS has sub-groups. These sub-groups focus on a topic to look at in more detail. For example, the workforce or quality and safety. There are also clinical groups that look at medical topics in more detail. For example, pre-term births.

Members of the public can be part of these groups. They share what other service users have said. They help shape maternity and neonatal services.

For more information: [Local Maternity and Neonatal Systems \(LMNS\) North East and North Cumbria Local Maternity Systems Northern England](#)