

**REPORT TITLE: Maternity Services at Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust and Mid-Yorkshire NHS Foundation Trust**

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Calderdale and Kirklees Joint Health Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>14 October 2025</b>
<b>Cabinet Member</b> (if applicable)	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Key Decision Eligible for Call In</b>	<b>No</b>
<p><b>Purpose of Report</b> Representatives from Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust (CHFT) and Mid-Yorkshire Foundation Trust (MYTT) will update the Committee on Maternity Services within Calderdale and Kirklees.</p>	
<p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the reports</li> </ul> <p><b>Reasons for Recommendations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To understand whether there is sufficient availability and clear communication to residents of Calderdale and Kirklees about maternity services, especially for those affected by changes to maternity provision.</li> <li>To reflect on whether all four birth settings (home, freestanding midwifery unit, alongside midwifery unit, obstetric unit) are equally accessible to residents across Calderdale and Kirklees.</li> <li>To consider whether there is sufficient support and information for women to make informed birth choices, especially those from vulnerable or underrepresented communities, and how the continuity of care is being maintained across different settings and geographies.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Resource Implications:</b> None.</p>	
<p><b>Date signed off by <u>Executive Director</u> &amp; name</b></p> <p><b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?</b></p> <p><b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer)?</b></p>	<p><b>Give name and date for Cabinet / Scrutiny reports</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Give name and date for Cabinet reports</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Give name and date for Cabinet reports</b> N/A</p>

**Electoral wards affected:** All Calderdale and Kirklees Wards.

**Ward councillors consulted:** N/A

**Public or private:** Public

**Has GDPR been considered?** Yes, and there are no implications.

**1. Executive Summary**

The Calderdale and Kirklees Joint Health Scrutiny Committee has been actively reviewing maternity services across the local area. Records of previous discussions and related documentation can be accessed via the following links.

[Browse meetings - Calderdale and Kirklees Joint Health Scrutiny Committee | Kirklees Council](#)

[Browse meetings - Calderdale and Kirklees Joint Health Overview Scrutiny Committee | Calderdale Council](#)

**2. Information required to take a decision**

CHFT and MYTT were asked to provide the Committee with an update on maternity services, in particular: -

- When considering future capacity, please can further insight be provided in relation to birth rates for both Huddersfield and Calderdale, compared to Dewsbury, and what the predictions would be for future births in these areas (by postcode if possible).
- Updated data on birth rates at the Bronte Birth Centre, including when a transfer to Pinderfields needed to be made? And, what pathways are in place to ensure efficient transfers, including how patient information is shared between hospitals?
- How are expectant mothers assisted and supported to ensure they are able to make a fully informed decision on where to give birth? What information is provided to them, how is this information provided, and how far ahead of their due date is it provided?
- How is information on benefit/risk analysed and communicated with the expectant mother?
- Is data in relation to the above gathered by the Trusts, and if so, how is it gathered, to ensure they are confident that women know what birthing options are available to them and that they are making well-informed decisions?
- How assured are CHFT and MYTT that women are fully informed about their choice of where to give birth, and how assured are the Trusts that this is done consistently?
- What is the process for reviewing a woman's birthing options when complications have previously occurred? Will a woman be told they can only be under consultant led care?
- How often are staff moved from either the Bronte or Calderdale birthing unit into an obstetric ward, and what are the reasons for this happening?
- Please provide some data around how often the birthing units at Bronte and CRH are closed, and how often women are being turned away from the birthing centre. Please can this include information as to whether this is due to being full, or due to staffing shortages.
- How is the provision of physical (as opposed to online) ante-natal classes and care in the Huddersfield area progressing?
- Please provide the Birth Rate Plus and workforce assessment if available.
- A clear and concise update on the current position regarding the re-opening of Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, and the implications of this decision.
- In light of the following articles in relation to two Leeds hospitals ([Leeds maternity services now 'inadequate' after inspectors act on parents' concerns - BBC News](#), [CQC](#)

[takes action to protect people using maternity and neonatal services at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust - Care Quality Commission](#)), what assurances can you provide to the Committee that CRH/HRI won't end up in a similar situation? And, what are the subsequent impacts for neonatal services in the region?

- In light of the following article ([Mistakes and delays at Yorkshire maternity unit 'led to death of baby'](#)), what information can be provided on the coroners comments and what measures are being put in place following the inquest?
- What consideration is given to how outlying areas such as Todmorden, HD8/HD9, and Cleckheaton for example, access maternity services and ante-natal support?

### **3. Implications for the Council**

None

#### **3.1 Council Plan**

N/A

#### **3.2 Financial Implications**

N/A

#### **3.3 Legal Implications**

N/A

#### **3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality**

N/A

#### **3.5 Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) or Human Resources**

N/A

### **4. Consultation**

N/A

### **5. Engagement**

N/A

### **6. Options**

N/A

#### **6.1 Options considered**

N/A

#### **6.2 Reasons for recommended option**

N/A

### **7. Next steps and timelines**

That the Calderdale and Kirklees JHSC takes account of the information presented and considers its plans for future meetings and activities in relation to maternity services.

### **8. Contact officer**

Yolande Myers

Principal Governance Office

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### **9. Background Papers and History of Decisions**

[CHFT MYTT Joint Paper JOSC March 2025 FINAL.pdf](#)  
[Item 6 - Maternity Services.pdf](#)  
[Bronte Unit Opening - Covering Report.pdf](#)  
[Maternity Services.pdf](#)

**10. Appendices**

1. MYTT report
2. CHFT report – to follow

**11. Service Director responsible**

Samantha Lawton, Service Director Legal Governance and Commissioning