

November 2022



# KENT, SURREY, SUSSEX NEONATAL NETWORK

Welcome to our latest edition of the quarterly newsletter. We look forward to sharing all our latest news and success stories. If you have any content that you would like to be included in our next newsletter, please contact us on [medwayft.kssneonatalodn@nhs.net](mailto:medwayft.kssneonatalodn@nhs.net)

## Bliss Update

- Units have been progressing with their Baby Charter journeys. We now have 3 Platinum, 14 Gold, 4 Silver, 79 Bronze and 46 Pledge of Improvement Awards
- The digital Baby Charter tool has been developed to include a feature where units can upload their evidence as and when they work through the Baby Charter – this could be guidelines, parent passports, information leaflets, checklists etc.
- We're always looking for current neonatal healthcare professional to support the Baby Charter – either through being a member of our [psychosocial advisory group](#), or by joining as a [volunteer assessor](#)
- We've published a report on research into South Asian families experiences of neonatal care: <https://www.bliss.org.uk/news/2022/bliss-launches-new-research-of-south-asian-communities-in-neonatal-care>
- The Neonatal Care (Leave and Pay) Bill has just passed committee stage: <https://www.bliss.org.uk/research-campaigns/influencing-policy-and-working-in-parliament/neonatal-leave-and-pay-campaign>
- Platinum: 1 Gold: 4 Silver: 1 Bronze: 5 Pledge of improvement: 1

## Congratulations to the Oliver Fisher Neonatal Unit

I'm pleased to say that following an assessment in August, the unit has received stage two accreditation in Unicef's Baby Friendly Initiative.

This initiative, in collaboration with the World Health Organisation, was created to try to improve the culture of breastfeeding, where rates in the UK are the lowest in the world. This has developed over the years and the standards include not only breastfeeding but also the importance of close and loving relationships and parents as partners in care. This prestigious accreditation programme, which is now recognised and recommended as a benchmark for best practice, has been something the unit has been working towards since 2018. There are three stages involved in the process and NICU is now well on their way to stage three, which will be assessed in August 2023. Once this has been passed, the unit will become fully accredited alongside the Maternity Department.

I would like to say a massive 'congratulations' to the team. I know it took a lot of hard work and perseverance to ensure that the high standards set by Unicef were met; this is even more impressive given the challenging backdrop of the pandemic. Well done!



## KSS Neonatal ODN Annual Education Day

# Better Together

On the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022, we held our annual education day. This year was titled “Better Together”, as not only is Family Integrated care at the centre of all that we do, but we are also passionate about staff wellbeing and supporting one another. We had a variety of different speakers, all bringing something different to the day.

We kicked off the day with Dr Fabia Franco and Maria Chifa, who gave an insightful presentation on the Soundscapes of the NICU. They were followed by Dr Kerry Taylor and our very own Dr Siobhan Higgins, who discussed the important topic of the Impact of a Neonatal Stay on Family Relationships. Lisa Leppard joined us next. Lisa is the Lead Care Co-ordinator for Thames Valley and Wessex, and she presented their project on Supporting Families with Repatriation. Lisa was followed by Laura Atherton from The Milk Memory Gift Initiative. This was a very emotive presentation around giving bereaved mothers the chance to donate their breastmilk in memory of their baby. Julia Petty joined us next. Julia is an Associate Professor (Learning and Teaching), Senior Lecturer in Children’s nursing and she discussed the controversial subject of The Implications of facemask for babies and families. Vix Monnelly, a Consultant Neonatologist from Edinburgh was next to join us. She gave an unmissable talk on the latest NLS Guidelines and the use of LMA’s on the Neonatal Unit. The room was then full of emotion as we heard Anita Roberts, PAG member, recall her experience of being a mother to a NICU baby. Our penultimate speaker was Aggie Rice, Schwartz Round Community Lead, with a presentation around reflective practice and how Schwartz rounds can support neonatal practice. Closing the day was Emily Hills. Emily is a Clinical Specialist Neonatal Occupational Therapist from Royal Free London, and she talked about the Sensory Experience and Early Intervention.

We’d like to take this opportunity to thank all our speakers, attendees and our sponsors, Chiesi Group and VapoTherm for an informative and enjoyable day. We are already planning for next year and hope to see you there!

Please have a read through our posters which were showcased on the day:



AHP Poster.JPG



AHP Poster 2.JPG



Psychology  
Poster.JPG



Parent cards  
poster.JPG

# NNAP

## National Neonatal Audit Programme

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to announce the publication of the *National Neonatal Audit Programme (NNAP) Summary report on 2021 data*. The report can be found [here](#). The report covers key findings and **national** recommendations and signposts to further resources to support your improvement work. For results by measure summarised by unit level and network, detailed findings, local recommendations and useful resources please see [Appendix A: NNAP 2021 data results](#)

This year's report contains a helpful [Results at a glance](#) infographic section. This can be downloaded as a separate document from the report webpage. A [Summary of recommendations](#) and [Line of sight table](#) are also available.

[NNAP Online](#), the audit's interactive reporting tool, has been updated and is now active with 2021 data. You can use NNAP Online to view your unit's results and to compare performance at a unit, network and national level. Unit posters, which are designed to be displayed in the neonatal unit for parents and visitors to the service can be found [here](#).

*Your baby's care*, a guide to the NNAP annual report for parents and carers, can be found [here](#). The Welsh version will be available shortly and we will contact Welsh units directly. Please do make this resource available on any electronic platforms that you use to communicate with families on your unit. It also contains a link to the privacy notice *Your baby's information*, which explains how we use data about mothers and babies.

We will be holding a webinar on Wednesday **23rd November, 14:00-15:30** to share in more detail the 2021 NNAP results. You can book your place [here](#)

Please share this information widely with your networks and contacts and do look out for key messages on Twitter in the coming days.

Thank you to all of you who have given your time and effort to collect information for the audit, ensure its accuracy and use your results for improvement.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact us at [nnap@rcpch.ac.uk](mailto:nnap@rcpch.ac.uk)

Yours sincerely,

The NNAP Team

[nnap@rcpch.ac.uk](mailto:nnap@rcpch.ac.uk)

## AHP UPDATE

As one of the first projects for the Network, the Lead AHPs and Lead Psychologist have been scoping current provision of unit AHPs and Psychologists throughout KSS ODN. Data has been gathered through virtual and face to face meetings as well as surveys sent to all AHP staff already in post. This data has been collated and analysed and is presented in the 'AHP and Psychology Scoping Report' which has recently been published. This report highlights the shortfall across all units and delves into what is currently being prioritised by those in post. The information gathered has been summarised and recommendations made. This has enabled us to prioritise our workload for the next year and beyond.

A gap analysis looking at both quantity of AHP provision and funding details of each post can be found within the scoping document.



Scoping Report -  
AHP and psychologica

We are hosting a webinar to share highlights of the report and answer any questions you may have. Please click on the link below to sign up for this free event.



Building AHP and  
Psychology Services v

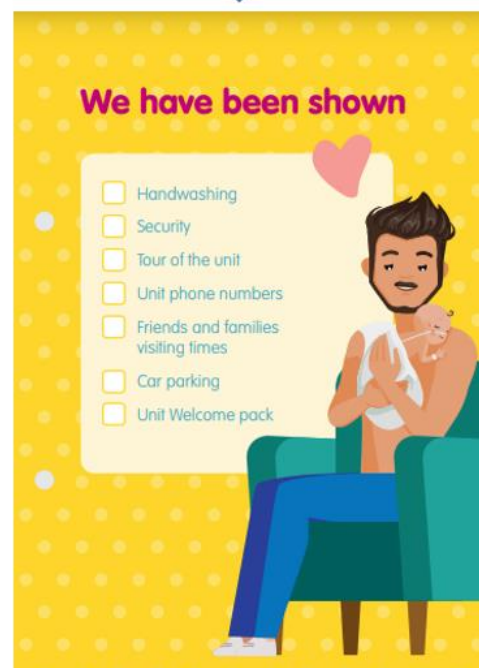
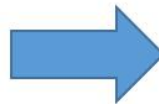
It was lovely to see so many of our units raising awareness of World Prematurity Day





**Care Co-ordinators Parent Card Project**

A great BIG THANK YOU to everyone who has given feedback on the 'parent cards' that have been in all the units across the network, we hope you have had an opportunity to look at the cards and give us your feedback. We have received over 90 pieces of feedback from both staff and families; this feedback has been used to further develop the graphics, wording, name and overall concept of the cards. Below is an example of the transition of an original card from Liverpool Women's Hospital to the current version (still for further changes as required). We will keep you posted and involved as the project moves forward.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO ROYAL SURREY ON RECEIVING THEIR BLISS BABY CHARTER GOLD ACCREDITATION



The Unicef Baby Friendly Gold award is the highest level of accreditation and celebrates excellent and sustained practice in the support of infant feeding and parent-infant relationships.

The Royal Surrey Maternity service is one of only eight maternity services in England to achieve a Gold accreditation.

The Unicef Baby Friendly Initiative is transforming healthcare for babies, their mothers and families in the UK as part global partnership between the World Health Organization (WHO) and Unicef.

The accreditation programme offers an evidence-based approach to support breastfeeding and good infant nutrition, helping parents to develop close and loving relationships with their babies. Unicef provide support to maternity services by setting standards, providing training and assess progress by measuring skills and knowledge of health professionals.

"Feeding is so much more than providing food. It is about bonding, nurturing and your baby's brain development. It is so nice to see women becoming a mother, trusting their instincts and watching their baby." Emily, (International Board Certified Lactation Consultant, IBCLC) Infant Feeding Specialist Midwife.

"Our aim is for mothers to be empowered, to trust their instincts and enjoy feeding their baby. We provide evidence based information to enable a family to make the right choice for them. With the tranquillity of a dedicated feeding room and trained postnatal support workers and midwives, we provide feeding support every 2 to 3 hours on the postnatal ward. Once you get home we also have a number of ways for you to access our dedicated feeding support." Kate, IBCLC Infant Feeding Lead Specialist Midwife.

If you have a spare wall or a space on your unit, these are some of the beautiful FICare related artwork/ wall decor found when we visited some of our units in KSS!



Darent Valley SCBU



Selfie wall at Tunbridge Wells LNU



BAPM's membership is growing. Since 2010, our membership has doubled and the organisation is a vibrant multidisciplinary group of more than 1800 perinatal professionals. Keeping in touch with you, our members, means sharing relevant updates and opportunities in the places that you'll see them. So while we'll still be posting on Twitter, from now on you'll also find us on Instagram.

**Twitter:** [@bapm\\_official](#)

**Instagram:** [@bapm\\_official](#)

### **Independent Reviewers Register**

BAPM and RCPCH are seeking consultants and senior nurses to act as independent reviewers for service, mortality or serious case reviews. We often get asked to recommend neonatal experts for reviews so in order to process these requests efficiently we are building up a register of interested parties.

You can find out more and complete an application form on our website. If you meet the essential criteria your details will then be added to the BAPM list. If you indicate you are willing to do service reviews, your details will be passed to RCPCH.

Deadline to apply for current opportunities: 5 December 2022.

[Find out more](#)

### **Members needed to develop a Service Specification for Neonatal Data Requirements**

BAPM is seeking members to join a working group to develop a service specification for Neonatal Data Requirements.

Currently NHS Trusts are procuring a variety of EHRS solutions from different service providers. This creates a number of challenges for neonatology, a service with complex and unique data needs. The service specification will support those working within Trusts that are in the process of EHRS procurement

The deadline to apply is 24 November.

[More details](#)

### **Maternity & Neonatal Services Listening Sessions**

Jacqueline Dunkley-Bent OBE, Chief Midwifery Officer, and Matthew Jolly, National Director for Women's Health and Maternity, will host a series of listening sessions for all maternity and neonatal staff. These are an opportunity to share your views which will help to inform a new single delivery plan for maternity and neonatal care.

- [Midlands and East of England](#) - 2 December, 8:30am-9:30am
- [South East, South West and London](#)- 30 November, 6pm-7pm



## Education events 2023

Plans for next year are underway, with a number of face to face days planned. We are organising:

**Neonatal Airway Simulation Day** the neonatal network airway group are planning an airway day, which will include: difficult airway simulations, intubation drugs, video laryngoscopy, surfactant techniques, laryngeal mask airway, extubation planning. **May 2023**

**Enhanced nursing skills day** this day will be aimed at qualified in speciality nurses from all units, particularly those working in LNU or SCU. Skills will include: chest drain, exchange transfusion, complex drugs, blood gas analysis, tracheostomy, stabilising preterm simulation. **End of March 2023**

**Annual Neonatal Network Education Day** following on from the success of "Better Together", we are planning our next event as a face to face day to be held in .... Please contact us if you would like to be involved in delivering a presentation, suggesting a topic for a session or submitting an abstract. All neonatal staff welcome. **September 2023**

**Human Factors Training** we are currently looking into delivering human factors training for network staff across the network

**Compassion-focused Therapy (CFT)** KSS ODN have been successful in applying for a bid to deliver CFT in 4 locations across the network, aimed at all staff across all the units.

### INFuSE (Interprofessional Neonatal Fundamentals South East)

We are currently halfway through our third cohort on the INFuSE foundation programme. We have had attendees from nursing, midwifery, non-registered workforce, administration, family engagement, AHPs, and transitional care. The study days have all been highly evaluated, and we are looking forward to running further cohorts – our next group will start in April 2023 and we are taking applications.

The Independent Investigation into maternity and neonatal services in East Kent has published its report on 19th October 2022. The investigation team was led by Dr Bill Kirkup CBE.

The report identifies four main areas for action:

- Improving ways of identifying poorly performing units
- Giving care with compassion and kindness
- Teamworking with a common purpose
- Responding to challenge with honesty

In response to this the network was successful in submitting a bid to Health Education England for funding to provide compassion focussed training for providers across the ODN. We will be in touch when the training dates are agreed.

The network is working collaboratively with the regional maternity team and specialised commissioning on a maternity bed/cot locator across the SE region. This will provide visibility for all units on available beds/cots for in utero transfers.

### *Dates for your diary....*

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022 14.00 - 16.00  
KSS Neonatal ODN Clinical Governance  
(Teams)

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023 10.00 - 13.00  
KSS Neonatal ODN Clinical Forum (York House,  
Horley and Teams)