

# Midwifery-led community centres

## Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust

### **What are they doing?**

Four midwifery led centres are already open. They are all situated in Sure Start Children's centres or Healthy living centres to provide midwifery care in non-medicalised settings where women and their families can access other services such as welfare advice, crèche facilities, internet cafes and other services. A full range of midwifery care is available including ultrasound scanning, haematological facilities and midwifery advice and support. The centres have been linked to the hospital computer system to ensure good links.

This means that women with straightforward pregnancies receive all their midwifery care in a setting which is based on a social model of care, is woman centred and is locally accessible. Since the midwifery led centres have been established women have booked for care much earlier, have defaulted care less frequently and very much appreciate having a local high quality service.

### **What are the outcomes?**

All births in Liverpool are now centralised within the Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust which serves a very deprived population. The National Service Framework in 2004 stated that women should have easy access to supportive, high quality maternity services, designed around their individual needs and those of their babies and as a response to this and other Government drivers, a midwifery led service was developed to provide woman-centred care in non medical settings that offered the same high standard of care that is available within the hospital. These centres are all established in deprived areas.

**For more information, contact:**

Dr Grace Edwards, Consultant Midwife

Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust

Crown Street

Liverpool

Merseyside

L8 7SS

01517 024 358

[Grace.edwards@lwh.nhs.uk](mailto:Grace.edwards@lwh.nhs.uk)

[www.lwh.org.uk](http://www.lwh.org.uk)

