2019 AGM LMC Liaison report

# 23/7/19

It has now been a year for me as LMC Liaison and I am really enjoying it.

I continue to attend various regular meetings such as the Incident Review Group, Maternity Operations Group and Child and Youth Workstream.

In the past few months I have been actively involved in the design and development of the new Maternity Early Warning System chart, the new Maternity Assessment Unit and the Newborn Observation Chart. It has been really interesting being involved in these processes and giving the LMC perspective on many matters.

I have also been involved in meetings in regard to the CDHB Maternal Mental Health Pathway, and Maternity Strategy and Transitional Care meetings.

Throughout the year I have attended meetings between LMC midwives and Charge Midwives/ Management. My role here is to support the LMC and I am often in contact post these meetings to offer further help. I am also in contact with LMC midwives and Charge midwives regarding any communication or practice issues.

I am also involved in Serious Event Reviews.

My aim has been to be visibly available to all midwives and am contactable through phone, email, messenger at all times. I am weekly in at Birthing Suite and whilst I understand that no one will take the time to make a special effort (goodness why would you with the parking wars!) the idea is that should an LMC midwife be either there or in Maternity they can take the opportunity to come and discuss any matters. This regular contact with core and the ACMMs has been really good as the only other times I am in there is for a birth and there is never time for a good chat then!

I have also attended forums at Lincoln and Rangiora, as well as visiting occasionally, and am very mindful about putting across the additional barriers that rural midwives face

I continue to communicate through the Canterbury Midwives Facebook page as well as through the Region’s email.

We have had 2 LMC forums this year which have generally been well attended. These will continue and I encourage all to add agenda items early before it gets filled up with issues that may concern you less.

Since my role started there has been the implementation of homebirth linen packs from Lincoln and Rangiora as well as the ability to now phone a cellphone from the birthing rooms at Christchurch Women’s. We also had off site training for the new cannulas organised however this was sadly not utilised by many.

I have got to know a lot of the wider personnel involved in maternity at Canterbury DHB and it is very interesting to hear their perspectives on what LMC midwives do and also learn more about their individual roles.

I am looking forward to another year as the LMC Liaison and would like to thank the Business Committee for their support. I would like, specifically, to thank Violet Clapham for being on the end of the phone whenever I have needed some advice as I have been learning this role, having my back at meetings and encouraging me when it all seemed a bit daunting!

I am sad that I am not here personally to publicly say a heartfelt thanks to Violet for her amazing dedication to our Region and to the Midwifery community. I have seen, from a personal perspective, the amount of work Violet puts into her role and without a doubt she has put the Canterbury and West Coast Region of NZCOM well and truly on the map! I wish her all the best in her ongoing work with the co design team and I hope she gets to spend some well earned fun times with her family and friends.