



GRAMPIAN
Maternity Voices
Partnership

Annual Reflections 2025

Welcome to this fourth annual reflections piece, offering an update on what the MVP has been involved with throughout 2025 and sharing our plans as we look ahead. This year, we also say a heartfelt goodbye to our stepping-down chair, Emily Balls, whose vision, leadership, and thoughtful oversight across all of Grampian have shaped the MVP in countless ways. Her dedication and drive will be deeply missed, and we extend our sincere gratitude for everything she has contributed.

We recognise the significant pressures services are under, while remaining committed to ensuring families receive the safest, highest-quality care. The Grampian MVP remains committed to acting as a collaborate and constructive support to the NHS, ensuring that the voices of those using maternity services are heard, respected, and meaningfully acted upon. We work in close partnership with staff to identify opportunities for improvement and to support projects that make a real difference to women, birthing people, and families across Grampian.

We hope this reflection encourages you to join us and get involved in the work we do. If you are pregnant, have recently had a baby, work with maternity services, or have a passion for improving care, we would love to hear from you. Please do get in touch to find out more.



Have
feedback?
Get in
touch!



Passionate
about
maternity
care? Join
us!

2025 : What we've accomplished

CONTINUED WORK ON OUR KEY DEVELOPMENT AREAS



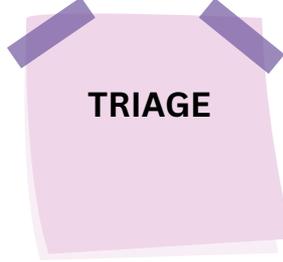
**ANTENATAL
EDUCATION**



**INDUCTION
OF
LABOUR**



**POSTNATAL
CARE**



TRIAGE

Members of the MVP have acted as a link for each area, working with NHS staff to share lived experience and help co-produce improvements for women, pregnancy people, babies and families. We have been part of focus groups to share the feedback from service users on these four key areas. To date, this has enabled improved communication, smoother pathways and increased accessibility for the Grampian community. Some of the actions already completed are: increased options of in person antenatal classes, project midwives appointed to induction of labour and triage, scoping of postnatal debrief service, new antenatal resources being drawn up which covers what to expect during your postnatal stay. As with many improvements, this work will be ongoing and therefore we will continue to keep these areas as an ongoing priority.

IMPROVING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN MIDWIVES AND DOULAS

A group of key NHS staff met with doulas who work in Aberdeen and shire to see how we can work together to become a collaborative support team for families in Grampian. The meeting was extremely positive and both sides noted how important it was to be able to meet outside of work settings to be able to build mutually respectful relationships.

FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WHICH WILL CONTINUE INTO 2026...



**ENGAGING WITH
THE WIDER
COMMUNITY &
DIVERSE
COMMUNITIES**



**NETWORK
MEETING TO
DISCUSS THE
CURRENT
MODEL OF THE
MVP**

Get Involved!

Shaped by close collaboration with our NHS partners and informed by the progress made in 2024, we have continued with our key priorities in 2025. These initiatives build on the foundations already in place. As we move from 2025 into 2026, this work will continue to evolve and strengthen the positive developments in these areas. This work has been informed through:

COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT
& ADVOCACY

REVIEWING
FEEDBACK

INPUT TO
IMPROVEMENT
WORK VIA
FOCUS
GROUPS

PARTNERSHIP
WORKING AT
MVP
MEETINGS

Priorities for 2026

We continued to build on our strong foundations throughout 2025, working in close partnership with NHS staff to further enhance maternity care. This year, we focused on refining antenatal education pathways, expanding our induction-of-labour feedback sessions, and contributing to the development of a new triage system through regular project meetings. We also strengthened our collaboration with postnatal ward teams to progress improvements in early postnatal care.

One of our main priorities for 2026 is to build our team. If you have a particular interest in any of these areas, we would be delighted to hear from you.

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Join Us!

It is more important than ever that we hear voices from varied communities and backgrounds. We are actively recruiting new members to join the team!

Contact us:



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<https://www.facebook.com/grampianmvp/>

