

**Action notes of progress meeting with Ian Harvey re neonatal services at the Countess of Chester**

**23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017 Bevan House**

**Present**

Lesley Patel  
Michel Gregory  
Andrew Bibby  
Ian Harvey

**Background**

IH discussed progress to date following the external review publication and recommendations and the units continued status as a special care baby unit.

There was confirmation that the Trust had completed the external review of babies who had died since Jan 2015 to July 2016 (13 babies). This was more in depth than the previous high level thematic undertaken by the Trust.

**Progress with recommendations**

- **Staffing**

Business case in development to support the need for additional consultant cover. 1 appointment made.

A risk midwife has been employed to improve the handling and investigation processes when incidents occur and bring this in line with the rest of the organisations processes and governance. There was a need to normalise reporting of incidents and improve unit debriefing with the involvement of all staff

- **External review**

IH confirmed that the completed review will be shared with families and then we would receive a copy

IH confirmed there was learning for the organisation that had been identified in the review pertaining to the care pathway. Action plan being developed by March end and to be shared with commissioners.

**ACTION IH**

- **Staff competence/ Culture**

IH confirmed that there were training needs in terms of strengthening procedures regarding when to escalate issues and gain senior staff advice. There were also cultural issues around decision making and the need to strengthen the nursing and medical leadership.

- **Other issues**

AB confirmed that a newly hosted transport service from CMFT would commence on 1<sup>st</sup> April for the whole network.

LP to discuss issues re formal policy regarding temp unit closures/ whole system multi agency investigation with July Maddocks

Sue McGorry and Roz Jones to attend local meeting at COCH with the network Commissioners requested to be kept in the loop regarding serious issues with specialised services and their progress at the earliest possible time.

IH confirmed that they were currently not aiming to return to level two status. If this was considered in the future there would need to be a plan to ensure staff can maintain and regain their competence.