

3. How were you notified about any baby deaths in the Hospital? Which medical staff did you liaise with and/or who gave you information about any deaths? What records did you make of the information you were given?

I was notified by medical staff on labour ward, neonatal ward and Jubilee day centre. Records were kept originally in a register, this then changed over to spread sheets. The information given was : patient's name, gestation of the baby, male or female, if the baby had been given a name. It also recorded if there was a postmortem, still birth or death certificate. We also kept the date of the funeral, burial or cremation, if the Trust made the arrangements. Sometimes, the families or funeral directors let us know the dates of the funerals.

4. Are you able to recall how and from whom (either by name or role within the Hospital) you received the information to complete the following spreadsheets:

It would normally be the dedicated nurse/midwife, who had been looking after the baby that contacted me. I would record any information that the nurse/midwife gave me and then also go and meet with the family where possible to gain further information.

4.1. 2014 – 2015 Baby Deceased Numbers at [INQ0106810]; and

4.2. 2015 – 2016 Baby Deceased Numbers at [INQ0106811]?

5. Was bereavement counselling always offered? If so, for how long? How often was the offer taken up? How would you describe the level of service?

Bereavement counselling was offered by all nursing staff. There was a hospital counsellor and the Chester miscarriage association and SANDS (Stillbirth and neonatal death society) that also offered support. I did not know how long the counselling went on for or if it was taken up as I wasn't involved in the counselling.

6. What bereavement counselling services were offered to parents whose babies died on the neonatal unit in 2015 and 2016?

It would be the hospital counsellor or SANDS that was offered. I would not know if they took up the offer or how long it lasted but it was offered by nursing staff or myself. The Hospital chaplain held a service in the hospital chapel for anyone who had suffered a loss and would also meet with the families if they wanted this. In addition to this a memorial service took place annually at Chester cathedral for any parents that had suffered a loss.

7. Do you know what bereavement counselling services are currently offered to parents of babies who have died at the Hospital?

I&S I am unable to comment what counselling services are currently offered to parents of babies who have died of the hospital.