



# Supervisors of midwives

## Who are Supervisors of Midwives?

They are experienced practising midwives who have undertaken additional training to support midwives and women and their families who use the maternity services.. They work within a team of supervisors and are employed within the hospital or community or outside the NHS.

## Our team of Supervisors of Midwives at Wye Valley NHS Trust

We are a team of midwives working within the maternity services in Hereford, supported by an administrative assistant.



## What do Supervisors of Midwives do?

Supervision of midwives is a legal requirement, which has been in existence since 1902 and all midwives must have a named Supervisor of Midwives.

The purpose of supervision of midwives is to protect women and babies by actively promoting excellence in midwifery care. They meet regularly with midwives and ensure a high standard of care is provided, acting as positive role models for midwives, guiding and supporting them in developing skills and expertise.

Supervisors of midwives have a responsibility to promote childbirth as a normal physiological event and to work in partnership with women; creating opportunities for them to engage actively in the planning of maternity services

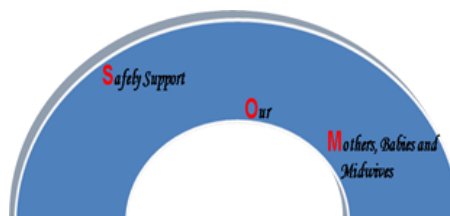
Supervisors also have a role in advising and supporting women who use maternity services; advocating for the right of all women to make informed choices and providing additional advice to women who are experiencing difficulty in achieving care choices.

The supervisors are independent of the employer and often work in a team being accountable to the Local Supervising Authority (LSA) and supported in their role by the Local Supervising Authority Midwifery Officer (LSAMO).

### How can Supervisor of Midwives help you?

<b>Listen</b>	to any concerns you may have about your maternity care
<b>Support</b>	you and your midwife in planning your care and planning for the birth of your baby
<b>Discuss</b>	with you the most appropriate choices for you and your baby
<b>Help</b>	to resolve disagreements about your maternity care in an unbiased and impartial manner
<b>Reflect</b>	with you if you are unhappy with your birth outcome or treatment. If you have had a traumatic birth, a supervisor can listen and help you reflect on your maternity experiences.
<b>Create</b>	Opportunities for you to engage and shape the future of the maternity services in Herefordshire.

### Our pledge to you



The Supervisors of Midwives pledge to actively support and guide the maternity service at Wye Valley NHS Trust to provide a safe and high quality standard of care for women and their families.

As Supervisors of Midwives we will ensure that midwifery practice is evidence based and that the service is accessible, equitable and fit for purpose

## **How to contact a Supervisor of Midwives**

You can contact a supervisor of midwives 24 hours a day by either calling Maternity Triage 24 on **07990986517** and asking for the On Call Supervisor or emailing us at [supervisorsofmidwives@wvt.nhs.uk](mailto:supervisorsofmidwives@wvt.nhs.uk) and we will try to respond as quickly as possible.

For further information about the Standards of Supervision and the work of our Supervisors of Midwives visit [www.isamoforumuk.scot.nhs.uk/information-for-the-public](http://www.isamoforumuk.scot.nhs.uk/information-for-the-public)