Supervisors of midwives (SOM) are experienced midwives with additional training whom promote best quality safe midwifery care.

Supervisors of midwives at South Tees are a dedicated team of midwives, providing a 24/7 service. They continually strive to promote normality and excellent care that is right for you. This is achieved through continuous ongoing training and education of all midwives and support is provided to any member of midwifery staff wishing to develop specialist skills and expertise for the benefit of the women they care for.

Supervisors of midwives are appointed by the local supervising authority and they are accountable in their role to the local supervising authority midwifery officer. When acting in their capacity as a supervisor of midwives, they are independent of their employers, investigating and reporting directly to the local supervising authority midwifery officer when there are concerns about safe practice. Their role is different to a midwifery manager who is responsible to the employer for making sure that maternity services run effectively. All midwives have a named supervisor who they are required to meet with at least once a year.

All midwives practising in the UK must be registered with the NMC, and are expected to demonstrate high standards of practice.

Dee Davies LSA officer can be contacted by email: dee.davies3@nhs.net or telephone: 0113 8253306

South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

**Supervision of Midwives – Midwifery Regulation**

Lynne Young (SOM) - Clinical Matron, Maternity and Gynaecology, Allie Himsworth (SOM) - Community Midwifery Manager, The James Cook University Hospital

The Local Supervising Authority (LSA) audit tool is divided into four domains in line with the National Quality Board good governance practices (Quality Governance in the NHS March 2011). Each domain is benchmarked against the revised Midwives Rules and Standards 2012 which include the Standards for Statutory Supervision of Midwives in England; this informs the framework for the LSA audit process.

To complete this audit tool, all electronic evidence that is submitted should be embedded against each relevant domain along with text to provide relevant/explanatory comments. If evidence is only available in hard copy format, this will be viewed on the day of the audit visit.

The completed LSA audit tool needs to be submitted to Dee Davies ‘dee.davies3@nhs.net’ two weeks before the date of your LSA audit.

### SOM

- Within South Tees – currently
  - 17 appointed practising SOM
  - 2 Student SOM
  - With a caseload of 16 midwives per SOM
- Currently audit the midwives / SOM perceptions of Supervision
- Capture patient experience within patient experience walkarounds and 15 steps challenge
- Representative SOM at the Family and Birth Forum and Risk Management Forum
- Support all midwives to provide safe effective care and when issues identified
- Offer support to women to make informed choices regarding their plan of care

### Process followed on identification of an incident

1. Incident identified
2. On call SOM notified
3. Investigation - following the local decision making tool
   - Statements requested
   - Supported by named SOM
4. Outcome of investigation
   - Local action plan
   - Supported supervised practice programme
   - Lessons learned and shared

### LSA reports

- Reports and reviews of local supervising authorities (LSAs)
- Each year every local supervising authority must submit a written report or reports to the Council by such date or dates and containing such information as the Council may specify.
- Each year, the NMC will inform the local supervising authority of the information required for the quarterly quality monitoring and annual reports.
- The annual report and other methods of reporting should provide assurance that each local supervising authority is meeting the standards set by the NMC for the delivery of the statutory supervision of midwives.
- Each local supervising authority should make their annual report available to the public.