



NATIONAL Maternity Voices

Supporting maternity & neonatal voices partnerships

ANNUAL REPORT

April 2025 – March 2026

National Maternity Voices (NMV) is the association of Maternity and Neonatal Voices Partnership (MNVP) leaders, championing the voices of women and families in the development of maternity and neonatal services in England.

A YEAR OF CONNECTION, SUPPORT & INFLUENCE



MNVP Star Awards

Launched in February to highlight the valuable work of MNVPs nationwide.
(Stars Event 2 July 2026)



Peer support

Three informal Cuppa & Chat meetings helped MNVP leads network, share good practice and support one another.



Resources

Continued supply of MNVP logo files and purple Maternity Voices Partnership lanyards for service-user engagement.



MBRRACE-UK

Input to the collaboration analysing maternal & perinatal deaths and promoting reports.



South East London

Supporting recruitment and mentoring new leads.



National influence

Input to future VCSE collaboration and the National Maternity & Neonatal Inquiry.



TRAINING

'incredibly beneficial'

Jade North Tees & Hartlepool

- 16 MNVP Leads attended 4 hour training in April and October
- Bespoke training for South East London leads in July
- 6 people attended the 2 hour Developing an Effective MNVP course in January.

OUR REACH



4.9K
X followers



3.8K
Facebook
page followers



860
multidisciplinary
Facebook Group



350+
Chairs & Reps
Facebook Group



PEOPLE BEHIND NMV

The main workforce was Louise Griew (team leadership, national links and administration), Siobhean McCarthy-Perham (MNVP support lead and MBRRACE representative), and Mo Ade (communications, map, logos and social media).

“

“An MNVP listens to the experiences of women and families... and ensures that service users’ voices are at the heart of decision-making.”

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National Maternity Voices CIC

Report for April 2025 - March 2026

Welcome to National Maternity Voices' (NMV's) Annual Report for 2025-26. This is a chance to review key events and activities in the year:

- In February we launched the [MNVP Star Awards](#) to highlight the valuable work of MNVPs around the country. (Awards event held on 2nd July 2026)
- Video meetings for MNVP leads to provide peer support, share good practice and discuss issues.
- Continuing to supply logo files and lanyards to MNVPs around the country
- Running MNVP Lead, and Developing Effective MNVPs Training sessions
- Contributing to the work of the MBRRACE- UK Collaboration
- Supporting MNVPs in South East London with bespoke training and mentoring.
- Contributions to the maternity consortium discussions about the future form of VCSE collaboration with government and to the National Maternity & Neonatal Inquiry.

Louise Griew

Managing Director, National Maternity Voices, August 2026

What is National Maternity Voices?

We are the association of Maternity and Neonatal Voices Partnership¹ (MNVP) leaders. In legal terms we are a community interest company (CIC) with the purpose of championing the voices of women and families in the development of maternity (and neonatal) services in England. We have a part time workforce drawn from the MNVP community.

All current independent lay leaders of MNVPs are invited to become members of the CIC to have a say in the running of National Maternity Voices (NMV). Members were invited to an informal members meeting in June and to cuppa & chats. The AGM was held on 23rd October 2025.

The main workforce of NMV this year was Louise Griew leading the team (national links and administration), Siobhean McCarthy-Perham as MNVP support lead and MBRRACE rep, and Mo Ade leading on Communications (map, logos, social media)

1 'An MNVP listens to the experiences of women and families, and brings together service users, staff and other stakeholders to plan, review and improve maternity and neonatal care. MNVPs ensure that service users' voices are at the heart of decision-making in maternity and neonatal services by being embedded within the leadership of provider trusts This influences improvements in the safety, quality, and experience of maternity and neonatal care.' ([MNVP Guidance](#))

Networking & Peer Support

We hosted 3 informal Cuppa & Chat meetings to enable MNVP leads to network and support one another.

NMV is active on Facebook (3.8K page followers) and X (4.9k followers). There are 3 private Facebook groups:-

The original [chairs \(leads\) & reps group](#) for service user representatives around the UK: over 350 members, with a general purpose of sharing information, seeking help and sharing good practice.

The [National Maternity Voices multidisciplinary group](#) which includes any member of an MNVP, NHS staff, VCSE (Voluntary sector Community or Social Enterprise) organisations, and researchers: it currently has over 860 members, and is mainly focused on research requests and involvement opportunities.

The [MNVP leads group](#) has been 'paused' so it is searchable and we recommend the [chairs & reps group](#) for new conversations.

Logos & Lanyards

We continued to sell MNVP logos and purple Maternity Voices Partnership lanyards for service users to wear when undertaking 15 steps or collecting feedback in the community.

Training

We have two experienced trainers, Omar Campbell and Mo Ade. Both are also current MNVP Leads. Open (pay per place) 4 hour training for MNVP Leads ran in April and October and 16 people attended.

*“Being so early in my MNVP Lead journey, this training came at the exact right time and was incredibly beneficial- especially just listening to a variety of other voices in the same boat”
Jade Wilcock MNVP Lead North Tees and Hartlepool, October 2025*

A 2 hour ‘**Developing an effective MNVP**’ course was attended by 6 people in January with a mix of host staff and new leads. It focuses on ‘how’ and a chance to learn from our experienced lead trainer that complements the self study modules released in September 2025.

*"Interesting to hear others thoughts and how other mnvps operate" Caroline
Fancott-Beynon, MNVP Project Team Leader, Healthwatch Lancashire, January 2026*

Consultancy

Our consultancy has three strands: supporting the development of MNVPs, supporting engagement with service users and providing service user representatives with MNVP links.

MBRRACE-UK Collaboration:[\(MBRRACE-UK: Mothers and Babies: Reducing Risk through Audits and Confidential Enquiries across the UK | MBRRACE-UK | NPEU\)](#) The collaboration contract was extended for a further 2 years to September 2027. Siobhean McCarthy-Perham took over from Meg Hill as an MNVP/Service user representative on the collaborators group which analyses maternal and perinatal deaths. We disseminated information about the reports and encouraged MNVP leads to take up discounted places at the MBRRACE conferences.

South East London: Suzanne Jarret continued to support recruitment of MNVP leads and mentor them in post. Mo Ade delivered some bespoke training for the MNVP Leads in July.

Health & Wellbeing Alliance: Maternity Consortium

National Maternity Voices (NMV) was a member of the Maternity Consortium led by Tommys and Sands. The Maternity Consortium was part of the Health and Wellbeing Alliance mechanism to facilitate collaboration between health bodies and the third sector. Resources developed by the Maternity Consortium and others can be found in the [VCSE Health and Wellbeing Alliance Resource Library](#) from National Voices.

HWA was extended as an interim arrangement to March 2026. We were remunerated for input to a number of meetings and consultations relating to the replacement for the HWA and to the National Maternity & Neonatal Inquiry. In addition Louise submitted [evidence to the inquiry](#).

Funding & Accounts

Income	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24
Health & Wellbeing Alliance	£ 2,334	£ 7,500	£13,592
Training	£ 2,805	£ 4,690	£ 9,425
Consultancy	£ 6,108	£10,290	£14,807
Logos + Lanyards	£ 393	£1,151	£ 1,907
Total	£11,640	£23,631	£62,481
Expenditure			
Remuneration	£11,598	£24,620	£72,144
Materials/service provision/travel	£ 80	£ 315	£ 1,010
Organisation Expenses	£ 838	£ 1,442	£ 2,666
Total	£12,516	£26,377	£75,820
Gross surplus (Loss)	(£ 876)	(£2,746)	(£13,339)
Tax (paid)	-	-	£ 2,534
Net Surplus (Loss)	(£ 876)	(£2,746)	(£10,805)
Total directors pay	£10,556	£16,602	£51,219

Most workforce time was paid. Louise volunteered time on the star awards and on the NMNI evidence. Income adjustments are incorporated within consultancy income.

Balance sheet at 31st March	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24
Assets at bank	£ 5,265	£ 8,036	£10,025
Debtors inc tax reclaimed	£ 34	£ 564	£ 3,026
Creditors inc VAT	(£2,883)	(£5,311)	(£ 988)
Net Current Assets	£ 2,416	£ 3,289	£12,063
Deferred Income & accountancy	£ 3,300	£ 3,297	£ 9,325
Net assets	(£ 884)	(£ 8)	£ 2,738

The directors loan of £5000 was partially repaid in October 2025 with £2,000 extended to October 2026. A total of £2,805 of income was deferred for work in 2026/27: £1,020 MBRRACE and £1,785 South East London including £700 for training.