

12 August 2025

Midwifery Support for Women and Substance Abuse

1. Does your Integrated Care System (ICS) or any NHS organisation within your ICS have specialist midwives dedicated to supporting women who use substances during the perinatal period?

If so, please provide any documentation available for these services, such as referral guidelines, service protocols, or links to relevant webpages or online resources.

MH: Addiction services contact SWAN regularly with respect to pregnant service users to ensure they are aware that of addiction services involvement.

2. Are there any other dedicated services within your ICS area that provide care to women who use or are in treatment for substances during the perinatal period?

MH: Service users referred to Drug Outreach Team (DOT) are assessed and allocated a keyworker immediately and referred to tier 3 service asap and prioritised for treatment.

Once service user is referred to Community Addiction Team (CAT), service user is allocated a keyworker immediately and an appointment provided within 7days, post-delivery support remains in place for a minimum of 3 months. Additional flexibility to engage is offered to pregnant service users referred to CAT, in that 4 appointments are offered before discussion regarding discharge is considered.

With respect to the Substitute Prescribing Team (SPT), pregnant service users are moved to the top of the waiting list and offered an appointment immediately, focusing on opioid substitution treatment.

All addiction services provide support with respect to harm reduction, relapse prevention, housing, benefits, mental health, physical health, addiction/medication education, adult safeguarding, group work and referrals and support to access inpatient detox and rehabilitation.

All services link in the SWAN team regularly to ensure they are aware of addiction services involvement and any ongoing treatment and support that is being provided. Where a service user does not engage with addiction services their GP, referrer and any other service they are involved with are updated.

12 August 2025

Please provide details on the service, including:

a. Who leads the service and which professionals are involved in delivering the care

MH: Service led by Community and Partnership Service Manager and Addictions Assistant Service Manager.

Each specialist team has a team leader and is made up of a multi-disciplinary team.

Professionals involved in Care:

- Consultant Psychiatrists
- Community Psychiatric Nurses
- Non-Medical Prescribers
- Advanced Nurse Prescribers
- Social Workers
- Occupational Therapist
- Outreach worker
- Peer Support Worker

b. Whether this service is a partnership between:

- i. NHS**
- ii. Third sector organisations**
- iii. Local authority**
- iv. Other organisations**

MH: Community Addiction Team and Substitute Prescribing team are tier 3 statutory services.

Drug Outreach Team is a tier 2 service, funded by the Public Health Agency (PHA)

Close links with SWAN team with respect to pregnant service users

Perinatal mental health services if pregnant service user has a co-morbid mental illness

Family and childcare services

c. If applicable, whether the service involves a manualised intervention, is an outreach service, or has a specific location

MH: Addictions services offers an outreach service and provides support in specific locations.

12 August 2025

CAT – There are 2 specific locations available where support can be offered i.e. Woodstock Lodge and Everton Complex. There is also flexibility offered with respect to engaging pregnant service users which is needs based.

DOT – Provides support at specific location and offers an outreach service.

SPT – Provides support at a specific clinical location.

d. Whether the service is provided by a national organisation, or any other relevant details

Trust addictions services are not provided by a national organisation.

Please provide any documentation, guidelines, or protocols related to these services, and/or any relevant URLs.