

Nursing and midwifery people stories for NHS England and NHS Improvement

Webpage location

Name

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Role

I qualified as a Midwife 20 years ago and after a varied career, which for many years saw me specialising in the care of young and vulnerable women, I developed an interest in [perinatal mental health](#). As one of the leading causes of maternal death, I am passionate about raising the profile of mental health and was keen to co-develop a service that supported women at all stages of their pregnancy and parenting journey. I am proud of the service that our organisation now offers and feel I have made a difference to the care of women and their families during what, for some, can be a challenging time.

On a typical day

Typically, I will start my day on site at either Scarborough or York at the labour ward handover, as this gives a really good insight into hospital activity; I believe in being visible and accessible to all maternity staff. I spend time outside of the organisation working with service users through the national Maternity Voice Partnership (MVP) and our partners in primary care, commissioning, safeguarding, the local maternity system and health visiting services. Safety, quality improvement, service user and staff experience and meeting the agendas of national maternity initiatives are key to my role, so being organised and liaising regionally and nationally is essential.

One way I've made a difference as a nurse or midwife

After working as a Matron for community midwifery across York and Scarborough for almost five years, I have recently been appointed to Deputy Head of Midwifery. I am delighted to have been offered the opportunity to work closely with midwives and the women and families in our communities to provide high quality maternity services where I can make a real difference.

What would you say to someone considering a career in nursing & midwifery?

Midwifery is ever-evolving and it is a particularly exciting time to study for a career with us as we pursue [national maternity transformation plans](#) and look to implement the principles of [Better Births](#) – including the introduction of continuity of carer. I would encourage anyone who has a passion for people and for providing excellent, high quality care that is responsive to the needs of all women, to consider midwifery.

Further information

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