

Maternity Services Divert Report 2011/2012 Comparison

All women booking with Barnet and Chase farm NHS Trust maternity services during pregnancy are informed both verbally and written that due to peaks in activity for women in labour they may not be able to be cared for in their first choice unit.

Below is table 1 comparing diverts from February to April 2012 compared to 2011.

It should be noted that we are unique in London in that we have units over 3 sites and therefore manage capacity between our sites. Single site hospitals when full to capacity have to close and make arrangements with neighbouring trusts. This is counted as a serious incident. We have only closed both sites on 1 occasion in the last 3 years

Table 1

Month	February 2011	February 2012	March 2011	March 2012	April 2011	April 2012
Barnet delivery suite	5	5	4	13	7	8
CFH delivery	0	2	4	0	5	2
Birth Centre CFH	0	0	1	0	0	0
Edgware birth centre	0	2	1	1	2	0
Midwife Led Unit Barnet	5	0	4	2	6	3
Reasons		No Beds / Insufficient Staff		No Beds / Insufficient Staff		No Beds / high workload
Total number of diverts	10	9	14	16	20	13

APPENDIX E

Arrangements for women who require admission when a unit is on divert

If Barnet is on divert women booked to attend its delivery suite are requested to attend the delivery suite at CFH site following triage on the telephone.

If a women arrives at Barnet delivery suite unannounced then she is seen, assessed and if no beds are available at the time she is transferred to CFH site in line with our treat and transfer policy.

If Chase Farm is on divert suite women are requested to attend delivery suite at the Barnet site. If a women arrives at CFH delivery suite unannounced then she is seen, assessed and if no beds are available at the time she is transferred to the Barnet site in line with our treat and transfer policy.

When any of the midwifery led units or birth centres are on divert, women booked for midwifery led care who contact the birth centres or midwife led units are giving a choice of where they wish to attend.

For example - midwifery led care unit at Barnet on divert women are offered a choice of the stand alone birth centre at Edgware or the alongside birth centre, Ridgeway Birth centre at CFH site.

Why Do Diverts Occur?

The majority of the time a divert is put in place is due to bed capacity where either the labour ward or the post natal beds are full. Occasionally we go on divert because we have insufficient midwives to ensure there is one to care for women in established labour.

What will happen when BEH is implemented?

When BEH is implemented all BCF Consultant led inpatients services will be on one site at Barnet, together with a midwifery led unit there and at the Edgware birth centre.

Capacity is being increased both at Barnet and North Middlesex hospitals to cope with the increase in births.

The 3,251 births currently at Chase Farm will be dispersed to North Middlesex (1,850 addition expected) with the remainder going to Barnet. Barnet's capacity will increase from 3,411 to 5,525 which allows for population growth and more activity from Hertfordshire.