

ITEM: 09/142B
Doc: 05.1

Meeting: Trust Board
Date: 18 November 2009

Title: **Maternity and Birth Centre Activity Report**

Executive Summary: The Midwifery Led Birth Centre opened 8 June 2009. The unit provides women with birth option choices, whilst enabling the Whittington to keep pace with an increasing demand on maternity services.

There has been a 5% increase in deliveries April to October compared to the same period last year.

Bookings have increased by 4% comparing April – October 2008/09 to the same period 2009/10. The increase in activity is primarily from Haringey.

There has been a high number of women transferring their care to the Whittington who had previously booked elsewhere when the unit first opened.

There are a number of other benefits being realised as a result of the Birth Unit opening:

- Ensuring the Whittington can continue with its ‘no cap’ policy of booking pregnant women
- Reducing the pressure on the Obstetric unit
- Ensuring all births are managed in the obstetric unit or Birth Centre
- Improved choice
- Improving Midwife recruitment

Action: For information.

Report from: Kate Slemeck - Director of Operations

Sponsor: Rob Larkman – Chief Executive

Compliance with statute, directions, policy, guidance	Reference:
Lead: All directors	Standing Orders