

# Bradford District & Craven Women's Health Network

## Terms of Reference

### What is it?

The Women's Health Network (WHN) is a collective of women living and/or working in Bradford District & Craven who have an interest in issues affecting the health and well-being of women and their families.

### Mission

To improve the health and wellbeing of women and their families through effective partnership working, with a particular focus on seldom heard voices.

### What does it do?

The WHN provides a space for women to:

- Share their experiences about current health services
- Influence the policy, planning, service design and delivery of local health services
- Explore barriers to accessing health services and address health inequalities
- Contribute to and have a positive impact on improving health services
- Learn more about what services are available and how to use them
- Ensure they get the information they need to keep themselves and their families healthy

### Working Principles and core values:

- **Equity** – consideration of the needs of all women to enable them to participate in all aspects of the WHN.
- **Openness and honesty** – transparent processes that encourage and enable free discussion and collective decision making.
- **Flexibility** – provide a variety of ways to engage, communicate and become involved.
- **Inclusivity** – work in ways that encourage and support all women to participate and show that they are valued
- **Empowerment** – work in ways that build confidence, raise self-esteem, transfer skills and knowledge and enable women to have more control over decisions that affect their lives.
- **Influence change** – work proactively to influence the key decisions that affect the health and well-being of local women and their families

### Membership / who can be part of it?

The WHN is open to individuals or groups of women living and/or working in Bradford District and Craven and voluntary, community, private and public sector organisations working to support the health and well-being of women.

### Communication

The network will provide an effective channel of 2-way communication between the women of Bradford and Clinical Commissioning Groups, the local authority and other statutory bodies, Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) networks and organisations.

### Task and Finish Groups

Task and finish Groups may be set up as required.

## **Election of Chair (s)**

- The Chair (s) will be elected by the network.
- One of the roles of either Chair or Co-Chair will be reserved for the Voluntary Community Sector.
- The process is nomination and election. Network members may self-nominate, each member will be entitled to vote (one vote per individual/group)
- The elected Chair(s) will serve for a period of two years subject to honouring the commitment set out in the role and responsibilities. Members may vote to re-instate the chair(s) for a further period of 2 years.

## **Meetings**

- i. Open themed meetings will take place quarterly or as necessary. Task and Finish Groups will be set up to arrange and facilitate the open meetings.
- ii. A quorum of 3 members of the network must be present to have a meeting or make decisions. Decisions will be made either by majority of the members present or by the wider network using a process of consensus.

## **Network Activities**

Themed meetings, consultations, seminars, events and workshops will be arranged as required.

## **Declaration of Interest**

Network members may occasionally have a specific interest in the matters under discussion. When these matters involve financial gain and/or interest, a full declaration of interest must be made and no participation in any decision-making or endorsement of proposals on the matter will be allowed.

## **In what ways can you get involved?**

- Join our Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/WomensHealthNetworkBradford/>
- Follow us on twitter [https://twitter.com/whn\\_bfddistrict](https://twitter.com/whn_bfddistrict)
- Visit our webpage <https://www.cnet.org.uk/projects/engaging-people>
- Become a member of the network to receive and share information about up and coming events and meetings