National Guidance

Over the years there have been changes in national guidance which have increased the numbers of women needing enhanced antenatal surveillance and intrapartum (labour and delivery) monitoring which has resulted in fewer women being eligible to deliver in a standalone midwifery-led unit.

The guidance includes:

• NICE: Antenatal care: routine care for the healthy pregnant woman (CG62) – March 2008

• NICE: Intrapartum care: management and delivery of care to women in labour (CG55) – September 2007

• NICE: Hypertension in pregnancy: the management of hypertension disorders during pregnancy (CG107) – August 2010

• NICE: Diabetes in pregnancy: management of diabetes and its complications from pre-conception to the postnatal periods (CG63) – March 2008

• NICE: Dietary interventions and physical activity interventions for weight management before, during and after pregnancy (PH27) – July 2010

• NICE: Pregnancy and Complex Social Factors: a model for service provision for pregnant women with complex social factors (CG110) – September 2010.