

Public Statement

Representatives of the Ministry of Health and The College of Midwives met in mediation on 15 and 16 August 2016. They have agreed to the following statement:

The current modular structure and payment system inadequately reflects the challenges of modern midwifery practice.

The Section 88 maternity notice defines and funds primary maternity care. Section 88 was not intended to fund Lead Maternity Care midwives for the provision of secondary and tertiary services.

The sustainability of Lead Maternity Care midwifery is central to the national primary maternity service and requires national support.

The parties have committed to a process that results in an understanding and recognition of the value of midwifery care to women and their babies in the health service.

The parties are still in mediation and there will be no further comment at this time. The mediation process is confidential. The process between the parties will be reviewed by 4 November 2016. The High Court proceeding remains adjourned.

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