

## **Bereavement Midwives**

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The Bereavement Midwives are midwives who have increased experience in caring for and supporting families during and after the loss of a baby.

The Bereavement Midwives will try to meet you while you are in hospital, although this is not always possible (for example if you choose to go home when the Bereavement Midwives are not on shift).

There are two designated rooms on the Delivery Suite for families who have a baby loss. You and your partner will be encouraged to stay with your baby for however long you wish.

The rooms are equipped with a pull down bed, fridge and drink making facilities to make your stay as comfortable as possible.

You will be asked if you would like follow-up contact from the bereavement midwives.

They offer support to families once they have gone home in the form of phone contact, usually between one and two weeks after discharge from hospital.

This is to see how you are getting on once home and to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

This follow-up can continue over the coming weeks and months depending on your wishes.

You will also be given contact details for the Bereavement Midwives before you go home, so that if you need them at any time you can contact them.

If they are not available at the time you call, please leave a message with your name and contact details, they will return your call as soon as possible.

The Bereavement Midwives are not counsellors, so they are unable to offer a counselling service. However, they can help to signpost you to additional support and counselling services if necessary.

Once results from any investigations (for example, blood tests, post-mortem or placental examination) are available, you will receive a letter inviting you to an appointment with your consultant.

This appointment is to discuss the results, any questions you have about the care you received and plans for any future pregnancies.

The Bereavement Midwives would usually attend this appointment with you.

If you have any questions about the Bereavement Midwives and how they can support you, please ask your midwife or contact the Bereavement Midwives:

bereavement.midwives@sthk.nhs.uk

Or via Delivery Suite: 0151 430 1502

