

ICON: Babies Cry, You Can Cope

Minutes of Engaging with Men Steering Group held on 19 January 2023

Attendees:

Sue Anslow	(SA)	Chair	Rachel Moss	(RM)
Ann Barber	(AB)		Joy Beck	(JB)
Elizabeth Hallett	(EH)		Emily Hutt	(EHu)
Kerry Matthews	(KM)		Jamie Carter	(JC)
Karen Turzynski	(KT)		Amy Baxter	(ABa)
Lois Fisher	(LF)		Melanie Ponomarenko	(MP)
Jenny Swann	(JS)		Kim Parekh	(KP)
Eleanor Marcham	(EM)		Deborah Gibbons	(DG)
Katie Thomas	(KTh)		Lynne Sweeney	(LS)
Krishnen Sawmynaden	(KS)		Thomas Cooper	(TC)

Apologies:

Claire Henderson Kerris Percival Sophie Read-Willetts Louise Masters Jill Broadhurst Louise Ledgerwood-Care

ITEM		ACTION
1	SA welcomed the meeting and apologies received as listed in these minutes.	
2	Minutes of meeting held on 6 October 2022 approved as accurate. Noted that it is Eleanor Marcham who is picking up any actions for Kirklees.	
3	Action Log	
	SA advised that some of the actions will move across to the new resource framework, so there are resources for everyone to share.	
	Action 1 – completed	
	Action 2 - KT will look into this.	KT

Action 13 – Jill Broadhurst has sent her apologies so this will be deferred.

Action 14 - for framework as a lot of areas have produced different leaflets and information for giving out.

Action 16 – for framework. Appointments need to be directed at both parents and not just mums.

LS commented that they are looking at this process so these letters are addressed to both parents, so dads feel engaged with from the beginning. They will also include information about the dad's leave entitlement. This is a family appointment as it is also aimed at significant others. LS to send this information to SA for sharing with the group on how to develop these letters.

LS/SA

SA said there are barriers because of the different systems set up to send out appointment letters. It is all linked into the invisible man and we ought to be looking at how we can access dads records, although antenatally we ask for their details so we don't necessarily have to access their records. Some areas are looking at text messages to include dads as well as mum.

Group suggestions were to include in the letter that at the visits they will be getting some information about the father so when they arrive, mum could say if dad's okay with them going onto his record. It's to do with permission and getting the dad's consent, or maybe sending a separate form with the letter. Just having a detail of the father, should make it possible to send out information.

Also if they are communicating with the father, they could copy in the GP as it would be a chance to increase GP awareness, especially around safeguarding cases.

HH commented that it was also to do with capacity, and potentially doubling the case load to include dads details, so they are looking at small steps they could take to encourage dads to be more involved e.g. if dad is at the visit they will explain that they will be documenting the visit and then get his consent to open dad's record. However, that is a long term goal.

SA advised it is really important to ask about significant others as it might not be the dad, so they can list all the people who are significant to that baby, and then if it becomes a safeguarding issue, they have that information to hand. They don't need dad's consent to put his details on mum's or baby's record, or consent from significant others.

At this stage letters are only going out to mums. But after a visit, information about the father and the baby will go onto dad's records so the GP can see this.

It will be a localised approach initially as each area will have their own process, but it's small steps towards a family letter rather than being addressed just to the mum, for the group to have a look at. KT reported that they are doing a lot of work on engaging dads and one thing they do is ask the dads how they're feeling around their mental health. If they feel they need extra support they will create a record for that dad – but they're just looking at doing this with safeguarding. SA will keep the framework updated with where people are with their letters. Action 18 – completed. ICON has been rolled out in the military and there was a presentation in ICON Week. MP from SSAFA advised they provide community health services under an MoD contract to overseas bases. Action 19 - completed. SA has sent out a step by step guide to the NSG for Snowmed and she can send this out SA to the group if people would like it. Action 20 – completed. AB has been liaising with London Irish who sponsored the Safer Sleep video. We will continue to send requests for sponsorship to different sports clubs (not just football), and if anyone has success to let us know. We have contacted the FA and some AB individual clubs but no luck so far. DB advised they have done quite a lot of work with their Safer Sleep Group alongside ICON, and are trying to roll it out at A&E. They are waiting for links for ICON to be put on at ED. SA asked how A&E can do a whole assessment e.g. it may not be colic that the baby has. JC said it is about identifying risky babies that predispose them to crying, so when they are presenting with AHT, it is put down as something else. There are many different services across health and it is difficult to tackle it across emergency care systems. Perhaps try and get ICON integrated into A&Es across the country, so when a baby presents, there is an awareness of JC/SA AHT. JC to follow this up with SA. SA advised there is a texting service that people are starting to use, and they are looking at how to link men into SA the three week touchpoint message as well. SA to send details of how to do after this meeting. At previous meetings they spoke about the military, prisons and police, and SA advised she had since been in contact

At previous meetings they spoke about the military, prisons and police, and SA advised she had since been in contact with probation. It was about linking in with their local services like police, probation etc. to see if they have an awareness of ICON. Could people let SA know if they have linked in with their local services so this information can be shared.

Group

4 Framework

SA reported they have had a lot of problems with ICON emails being received as these are going into people's junk, so please check your junk as NHS have tightened up on receiving emails.

SA asked if anyone had any comments on the framework – was it a good resource and should anything be added to it? They could also add on YouTube links, videos and social media, and training for supporting dads with mental health.

In regards to working with the police, KT advised that their IHVT was very good and was delivering the ICON message out to new staff. There was a cost implication of £200, and this is run by Keiron from DadsPad. KT is adding on areas for dads including ICON. KT to send SA a link for this when it has been done.

JC reported they have done quite a lot in Sussex with the police, and they have now got on their records a link to ICON, and it is also included in their training, but how much it gets to frontline they don't know.

SA commented that she had met with Merseyside police during ICON Week, and was asked how much training they need, but they just need an overview so they know what to do when they enter a house with a crying baby.

SA advised that on HV visits you can check on a baby's sleeping arrangement but when the police go, the parents/carers can't tidy up so they can see the habitat as it is, so it's very important to link in with the police and probation.

DG advised that they work with quite a few probation officers so she will see what she can do as she has some contacts.

SA said it's just about having these conversations with probation/police, as it could be why domestic abuse is happening, and each area has a different system, so it's just about getting these important messages out there. If the group could let SA know if they have done anything with the police so this can shared e.g. check out groups in your areas like Dads Matter, DadsPad etc. as these people can be a valuable resource for linking in with dads. You can make also referrals to these services. Substance Misuse is another service and midwives have contacts of where to find these inroads.

SA advised we are doing some work around scans for ICON, but as a lot of scanning areas won't put a poster up, AB has created a baby scan photo card for purchase from Harlow Printing, which will be available soon. This is another good way of getting information out there.

The aim now is to look at evaluations so we can see how ICON is developing across the country and how it is being

Group

KT

Group

	embedded. SA/AB are looking at creating an online audit and a questionnaire to give to dads, so we can see sustainability and to capture what the dad wants, and we will be looking at sending these out to the group to have a look at.	SA/AB
5	Area Updates Kirklees EM updated they have a presentation for midwifery, parenting teams and Homestart across Kirklees, and are now considering Dads Matter Group (EM to share presentation with SA). Their first antenatal fair is on 21 January and if successful, they will invite dads. They have made changes to the System One template so dads are included and are looking at sharing records with GPs. They also have a shared listing with Andy's Man Club.	EM
	Cambridge LF advised that their comms team had created a helpful ICON toolkit for practitioners, which includes how to put on infographics (LF will let SA know if she can share this with the group). They have got DadsPad available as well.	LF
	West Yorkshire KM - they are doing quite a bit of work around engaging men e.g. they are considering the father or significant other in communication, and have obtained DadsPad for midwives. They have bespoke training in ED about who is the contact for the child. KM will take back question around AHT to see if this can be included in the training. SA asked if KM should share anything else to build up the resource pack.	KM
	Lancashire KT - they will be having discussions with their pre-reg students as well around ICON. This meeting is very useful.	
	Military MP reported ICON is going well in the military – they are looking into contact with dads. One of their nurses did some work in schools - SA to meet with him to see how it went. MP is looking at how they can engage with men generally, and to pull the ICON messages into that.	
	SA said it was very interesting to see all the different stages, and they would be evaluating to see if they are doing the right thing. An idea would be to have a record for all dads, although there are lots of different barriers, but from feedback at conferences men do want to be involved, so this is very important. At the present time, dads are not	

	shown how to care for babies and we are here to reduce AHT.	
6	AOB	
	Don't forget to check your junk emails for Iconcope emails.	Group
7	Next meeting	
	The next meeting for the steering group is arranged for Thursday 20 April at 9.30 – 11:00. AB has sent out an invite for this.	АВ