How can I run a safe and rights respecting maternity service in a pandemic?

**Step 1**
What would it take to keep existing services running?

**What are the pressures?**
- PPE shortages
- Staff shortages
- Ambulance response times

**How could these be solved/eased?**
- Remove vulnerable staff from high risk work
- Use Maternity Support Workers instead of a second midwife at home births
- Make non urgent transfers by private transport

**Only if no change is not an option...**

**Step 2**
What are my options for temporary changes?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No change</th>
<th>Option 1 (example)</th>
<th>Option 2 (example)</th>
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**Step 3**
Choose the most proportionate option
i.e. that which protects health with the least restriction on rights

This will not necessarily be the option that has the greatest effect of stopping the spread of COVID-19

**Step 4**
Implement

Review regularly – return to normal asap
Always consider individual exceptions

Could the Local Maternity System help?

NHS guidance says MVP (Maternity Voice Partnerships) Chairs should be involved in decisions

What harm or trauma may be caused?

How strong is the evidence for this?

What might the unforeseen circumstances be, especially for marginalised groups?

Duty under the Equality Act to make ‘reasonable adjustments’ remains

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