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

birthrights
Protecting human rights in childbirth

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

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

Could the Local Maternity System help?

What are the pressures?

How could these be solved/eased?

What harm or trauma may be caused?

Step 2
What are my options for temporary changes?

How strong is the evidence for this?

How far does it impact on the rights of women/ birthing people/partners?

How far does it prevent the spread of COVID-19?

	How far does it impact on the rights of women/birthing people/partners?	How far does it prevent the spread of COVID-19?
No change		●
Option 1	●	●
Option 2	●	●
+		

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

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

Duty under the Equality Act to make 'reasonable adjustments' remains

Step 4
Implement

Review regularly – return to normal asap

Always consider individual exceptions