



# National Perinatal Mortality Review Tool

## Learning from Standardised Reviews When Babies Die

Eighth Annual Report 2026  
Tables of Findings



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# Use of the terms women and mothers

We use the terms ‘women’ and ‘mothers’ throughout this report to refer to those who are pregnant and give birth. We acknowledge that not all people who are pregnant or give birth identify as women, and it is important that evidence-based care for maternity, perinatal and postnatal health is inclusive.

## Glossary

|                      |                                                                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CDOP</b>          | Child Death Overview Panel (England)                                  |
| <b>Cool/cold cot</b> | A cot which is kept cool/cold to preserve the baby’s body after death |
| <b>CTG</b>           | Cardiotocograph                                                       |
| <b>ICBs</b>          | Integrated Care Boards                                                |
| <b>NCMD</b>          | National Child Mortality Database                                     |
| <b>MBRRACE-UK</b>    | The collaboration established to deliver the MNI-CORP                 |
| <b>MNI-CORP</b>      | Maternal, Newborn and Infant Clinical Outcome Review Programme        |
| <b>PMRT</b>          | Perinatal Mortality Review Tool                                       |
| <b>sands</b>         | Pregnancy and baby loss charity                                       |

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# 1. Conducting Reviews

Table 1.1: Number of reviews and the percentage of deaths where a review has been carried out using the PMRT by year, England 2018 to 2025 (as at 1st July 2026)

|                                 | Type of death                                         |                                       |                             |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                 | Stillbirths & late miscarriages<br>n (%) <sup>2</sup> | Neonatal deaths<br>n (%) <sup>2</sup> | Total<br>n (%) <sup>2</sup> |
| <b>2018</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 2,256 (85%)                                           | 1,094 (80%)                           | 3,350 (83%)                 |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 2,069 (78%)                                           | 889 (65%)                             | 2,958 (74%)                 |
| <b>2019</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 2,458 (98%)                                           | 1,330 (99%)                           | 3,788 (99%)                 |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 2,293 (92%)                                           | 1,128 (90%)                           | 3,421 (91%)                 |
| <b>2020</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 2,277 (91%)                                           | 1,273 (96%)                           | 3,550 (98%)                 |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 2,163 (95%)                                           | 1,086 (82%)                           | 3,249 (90%)                 |
| <b>2021</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 2,459 (99%)                                           | 1,391 (99%)                           | 3,850 (99%)                 |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 2,185 (88%)                                           | 1,024 (73%)                           | 3,209 (83%)                 |
| <b>2022</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 2,240 (99%)                                           | 1,445 (99%)                           | 3,685 (99%)                 |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 2,017 (89%)                                           | 1,190 (82%)                           | 3,207 (86%)                 |
| <b>2023</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 2,184 (99%)                                           | 1,405 (96%)                           | 3,589 (99%)                 |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 2,130 (97%)                                           | 1,319 (92%)                           | 3,449 (95%)                 |
| <b>2024</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 2,112 (99.6%)                                         | 1,341 (97%)                           | 3,453 (99%)                 |
| Review published <sup>1,3</sup> | 2,008 (96%)                                           | 1,264 (82%)                           | 3,272 (84%)                 |
| <b>2026</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 2,031 (99.5%)                                         | 1,253 (97%)                           | 3,384 (98%)                 |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 1,958 (96%)                                           | 1,116 (86%)                           | 3,074 (92%)                 |

1. Published means that the review is complete, has been closed and the final report has been produced.
2. Percentages based on the notifications of eligible deaths to the MBRRACE-UK system as at 1st July 2026; some of the reviews of deaths in 2025 will still be in progress at this stage of reporting
3. The number and percentages of reviews have been updated for 2024; thus, the figures have changed from those reported in the 2025 annual report

**Table 1.2: Number of reviews and the percentage of deaths where a review has been carried out using the PMRT by year, Scotland 2018 to 2025**  
(as at 1st July 2026)

|                                 | Type of death                                         |                                       |                             |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                 | Stillbirths & late miscarriages<br>n (%) <sup>2</sup> | Neonatal deaths<br>n (%) <sup>2</sup> | Total<br>n (%) <sup>2</sup> |
| <b>2018</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 93 (45%)                                              | 35 (38%)                              | 128 (43%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 59 (29%)                                              | 27 (29%)                              | 86 (29%)                    |
| <b>2019</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 160 (82%)                                             | 65 (75%)                              | 225 (80%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 127 (65%)                                             | 53 (61%)                              | 225 (80%)                   |
| <b>2020</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 162 (81%)                                             | 51 (56%)                              | 213 (73%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 150 (75%)                                             | 44 (48%)                              | 194 (67%)                   |
| <b>2021</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 163 (88%)                                             | 76 (62%)                              | 239 (78%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 148 (80%)                                             | 49 (40%)                              | 197 (64%)                   |
| <b>2022</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 162 (89%)                                             | 62 (63%)                              | 224 (80%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 116 (64%)                                             | 44 (44%)                              | 160 (57%)                   |
| <b>2023</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 126 (84%)                                             | 84 (79%)                              | 210 (81%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 105 (70%)                                             | 58 (55%)                              | 163 (64%)                   |
| <b>2024</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 145 (88%)                                             | 67 (67%)                              | 212 (80%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1,3</sup> | 116 (71%)                                             | 46 (46%)                              | 162 (61%)                   |
| <b>2025</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 150 (89%)                                             | 56 (67%)                              | 206 (81%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 104 (62%)                                             | 17 (20%)                              | 121 (48%)                   |

1. Published means that the review is complete, has been closed and the final report has been produced.
2. Percentages based on the notifications of eligible deaths to the MBRRACE-UK system as at 1st July 2026; some of the reviews of deaths in 2025 will still be in progress at this stage of reporting
3. The number and percentages of reviews have been updated for 2024; thus, the figures have changed from those reported in the 2025 annual report

**Table 1.3: Number of reviews and the percentage of deaths where a review has been carried out using the PMRT by year, Wales 2018 to 2025**  
(as at 1st July 2026)

|                                 | Type of death                                         |                                       |                             |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                 | Stillbirths & late miscarriages<br>n (%) <sup>2</sup> | Neonatal deaths<br>n (%) <sup>2</sup> | Total<br>n (%) <sup>2</sup> |
| <b>2018</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 92 (72%)                                              | 47 (78%)                              | 139 (74%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 75 (59%)                                              | 24 (40%)                              | 99 (53%)                    |
| <b>2019</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 93 (73%)                                              | 73 (99%)                              | 166 (82%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 67 (52%)                                              | 43 (58%)                              | 110 (54%)                   |
| <b>2020</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 97 (89%)                                              | 65 (100%)                             | 162 (87%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 89 (82%)                                              | 30 (51%)                              | 119 (71%)                   |
| <b>2021</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 97 (80%)                                              | 55 (100%)                             | 152 (87%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 58 (48%)                                              | 6 (11%)                               | 64 (37%)                    |
| <b>2022</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 99 (82%)                                              | 59 (100%)                             | 158 (88%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 84 (69%)                                              | 13 (22%)                              | 97 (54%)                    |
| <b>2023</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 94 (98%)                                              | 31 (49%)                              | 108 (69%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 88 (90%)                                              | 41 (65%)                              | 129 (80%)                   |
| <b>2024</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 107 (100%)                                            | 52 (100%)                             | 159 (100%)                  |
| Review published <sup>1,3</sup> | 105 (99%)                                             | 48 (92%)                              | 153 (97%)                   |
| <b>2025</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 95 (97%)                                              | 53 (95%)                              | 148 (96%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 74 (76%)                                              | 33 (59%)                              | 107 (69%)                   |

1. Published means that the review is complete, has been closed and the final report has been produced.
2. Percentages based on the notifications of eligible deaths to the MBRACE-UK system as at 1st July 2026; some of the reviews of deaths in 2025 will still be in progress at this stage of reporting
3. The number and percentages of reviews have been updated for 2024; thus, the figures have changed from those reported in the 2025 annual report

**Table 1.4: Number of reviews and the percentage of deaths where a review has been carried out using the PMRT by year, Northern Ireland 2020 to 2025 (as at 1st July 2026)**

|                                 | Type of death                                         |                                       |                             |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                 | Stillbirths & late miscarriages<br>n (%) <sup>2</sup> | Neonatal deaths<br>n (%) <sup>2</sup> | Total<br>n (%) <sup>2</sup> |
| <b>2020*</b>                    |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 73 (84%)                                              | 23 (35%)                              | 96 (63%)                    |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 43 (49%)                                              | 11 (17%)                              | 54 (35%)                    |
| <b>2021</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least                 | 81 (77%)                                              | 20 (30%)                              | 101 (59%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 23 (22%)                                              | 3 (4%)                                | 26 (15%)                    |
| <b>2022</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 80 (94%)                                              | 30 (48%)                              | 110 (74%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 76 (89%)                                              | 19 (30%)                              | 95 (64%)                    |
| <b>2023</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 61 (97%)                                              | 47 (96%)                              | 108 (96%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 58 (92%)                                              | 36 (73%)                              | 94 (84%)                    |
| <b>2024</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 67 (96%)                                              | 45 (90%)                              | 112 (93%)                   |
| Review published <sup>1,3</sup> | 66 (94%)                                              | 30 (60%)                              | 96 (80%)                    |
| <b>2025</b>                     |                                                       |                                       |                             |
| Review at least started         | 42 (93%)                                              | 38 (95%)                              | 80 (94%)                    |
| Review published <sup>1</sup>   | 32 (71%)                                              | 10 (25%)                              | 42 (49%)                    |

\* Trusts in Northern Ireland adopted the PMRT for the conduct of reviews during autumn 2019. As a consequence the reviews carried out in Northern Ireland in 2019 and 2020 were during the implementation phase of the use of the PMRT and few reviews were completed or published in 2019. This table therefore only includes information about reviews carried out from January 2020

1. Published means that the review is complete, has been closed and the final report has been produced.
2. Percentages based on the notifications of eligible deaths to the MBRRACE-UK system as at 1st July 2026; some of the reviews of deaths in 2025 will still be in progress at this stage of reporting
3. The number and percentages of reviews have been updated for 2024; thus, the figures have changed from those reported in the 2025 annual report

**Table 1.5: Characteristics of reviews by country and type of death, for reviews completed Jan 2018 to Dec 2025**

|                                  | Reviews<br>Jan 2018 to<br>Feb 2019    | Reviews<br>Mar 2019 to<br>Feb 2020    | Reviews<br>Mar 2020 to<br>Feb 2021    | Reviews<br>Mar 2021 to<br>Feb 2022    | Reviews<br>Mar 2022 to<br>Feb 2023    | Reviews<br>Jan 2023 to<br>Dec 2023    | Reviews<br>Jan 2024 to<br>Dec 2024    | Reviews<br>Jan 2025 to Dec 2025 |                          |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
|                                  | Percentage of<br>reviews <sup>1</sup> | Percentage of<br>reviews <sup>1</sup> | Percentage of<br>reviews <sup>1</sup> | Percentage of<br>reviews <sup>1</sup> | Percentage of<br>reviews <sup>1</sup> | Percentage of<br>reviews <sup>1</sup> | Percentage of<br>reviews <sup>1</sup> | Number of<br>reviews            | Percentage<br>of reviews |
| <b>Country:</b>                  |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                 |                          |
| England                          | 94%                                   | 94%                                   | 91%                                   | 89%                                   | 87%                                   | 88%                                   | 90%                                   | 3,683                           | 90%                      |
| Wales                            | 2%                                    | 2%                                    | 4%                                    | 4%                                    | 5%                                    | 4%                                    | 4%                                    | 168                             | 4%                       |
| Scotland                         | 4%                                    | 4%                                    | 4%                                    | 6%                                    | 5%                                    | 4%                                    | 3%                                    | 162                             | 4%                       |
| Northern<br>Ireland <sup>2</sup> | --                                    | --                                    | 1%                                    | 1%                                    | 4%                                    | 4%                                    | 2%                                    | 97                              | 2%                       |
| <b>Type of death:</b>            |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                 |                          |
| Late<br>miscarriages             | 10%                                   | 12%                                   | 10%                                   | 10%                                   | 9%                                    | 9%                                    | 9%                                    | 369                             | 9%                       |
| Stillbirths                      | 67%                                   | 58%                                   | 56%                                   | 57%                                   | 55%                                   | 54%                                   | 53%                                   | 2,176                           | 53%                      |
| Neonatal<br>deaths               | 23%                                   | 29%                                   | 35%                                   | 33%                                   | 36%                                   | 37%                                   | 38%                                   | 1,565                           | 38%                      |

1. The number of reviews by country and type of perinatal deaths for Jan 2018 to Dec 2024 are available in the 2025 annual report tables document

2. Northern Ireland adopted the PMRT in autumn 2019

## 2. Parents' perspectives of their care and that of their baby

Table 2.1: Number and percentage of reviews indicating parents' perspectives of care were sought<sup>2</sup>, for reviews completed Jan 2018 to Dec 2025

|                                  | Reviews<br>Jan 2018 to<br>Feb 2019 |     | Reviews<br>Mar 2019 to<br>Feb 2020 |     | Reviews<br>Mar 2020 to<br>Feb 2021 |     | Reviews<br>Mar 2021 to<br>Feb 2022 |     | Reviews<br>Mar 2022 to<br>Feb 2023 |     | Reviews<br>Jan 2023 to<br>Dec 2023 |     | Reviews<br>Jan 2024 to<br>Dec 2024 |     | Reviews<br>Jan 2025 to<br>Dec 2025 |      |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|------|
|                                  | N                                  | %   | N                                  | %   | N                                  | %   | N                                  | %   | N                                  | %   | N                                  | %   | N                                  | %   | N                                  | %    |
| <b>Country:</b>                  |                                    |     |                                    |     |                                    |     |                                    |     |                                    |     |                                    |     |                                    |     |                                    |      |
| England                          | 1,070                              | 76% | 2,916                              | 84% | 3,277                              | 90% | 3,620                              | 97% | 3,450                              | 96% | 3,714                              | 98% | 3,721                              | 99% | 3,545                              | 96%  |
| Wales                            | 19                                 | 82% | 70                                 | 86% | 98                                 | 67% | 140                                | 82% | 154                                | 83% | 133                                | 86% | 146                                | 88% | 155                                | 92%  |
| Scotland                         | 35                                 | 57% | 130                                | 87% | 160                                | 91% | 201                                | 86% | 180                                | 95% | 160                                | 91% | 128                                | 90% | 149                                | 92%  |
| Northern<br>Ireland <sup>1</sup> | --                                 | --  | --                                 | --  | 34                                 | 89% | 44                                 | 94% | 122                                | 80% | 138                                | 79% | 89                                 | 99% | 97                                 | 100% |
| Overall                          | 1,124                              | 75% | 3,116                              | 84% | 3,569                              | 90% | 4,005                              | 95% | 3,906                              | 95% | 4,145                              | 96% | 4,084                              | 98% | 3,946                              | 96%  |
| <b>Type of death:</b>            |                                    |     |                                    |     |                                    |     |                                    |     |                                    |     |                                    |     |                                    |     |                                    |      |
| Late<br>miscarriages             | 100                                | 70% | 365                                | 81% | 344                                | 89% | 398                                | 96% | 365                                | 95% | 381                                | 96% | 357                                | 99% | 361                                | 98%  |
| Stillbirths                      | 781                                | 77% | 1,879                              | 87% | 2,041                              | 92% | 2,309                              | 96% | 2,173                              | 97% | 2,282                              | 98% | 2,190                              | 99% | 2,144                              | 99%  |
| Neonatal<br>deaths               | 243                                | 70% | 872                                | 80% | 1,184                              | 86% | 1,298                              | 93% | 1,368                              | 92% | 1,482                              | 93% | 1,537                              | 97% | 1,441                              | 92%  |

1. Trusts in Northern Ireland adopted the PMRT for the conduct of reviews during autumn 2019. As a consequence the reviews carried out in Northern Ireland in 2019 and 2020 were during the implementation phase of the use of the PMRT and few reviews were completed or published in 2019. This table therefore only includes information about reviews carried out from March 2020.
2. Although it is indicated that parents' perspectives were sought these were not always received and included as part of the review.

**Table 2.2: Themes from a sample of those parents who had questions, comments or expressed concerns about their care by type of death, for reviews completed Mar 2022 to Dec 2025**

| Questions and concerns – main themes | Sub-themes                                        | Reviews<br>Mar 2022 to<br>Feb 2023 <sup>1</sup> |            | Reviews<br>Jan 2023 to Dec 2023   |                 |                     | Reviews<br>Jan 2024 to Dec 2024   |                 |                     | Reviews<br>Jan 2025 to Dec 2025   |                 |                     |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
|                                      |                                                   | Number of responses                             | All deaths | Late miscarriages and stillbirths | Neonatal deaths | Number of responses | Late miscarriages and stillbirths | Neonatal deaths | Number of responses | Late miscarriages and stillbirths | Neonatal deaths | Number of responses |
|                                      |                                                   |                                                 |            |                                   |                 |                     |                                   |                 |                     |                                   |                 |                     |
| Staff approach and care received     | Lack of compassion or inadequate care             | N=200<br>n (%)                                  | All deaths | N=114<br>n (%)                    | N=86<br>n (%)   | N=200<br>n (%)      | N=116<br>n (%)                    | N=84<br>n (%)   | N=200<br>n (%)      | N=131<br>n (%)                    | N=69<br>n (%)   | N=200<br>n (%)      |
|                                      |                                                   | 14 (7%)                                         |            | 3 (3%)                            | 2 (2%)          | 5 (3%)              | 8 (7%)                            | 3 (4%)          | 11 (6%)             | 35 (27%)                          | 19 (28%)        | 54 (27%)            |
| Questions, confusion or complaints   | Loss of control – not listened to/felt ignored    | 5 (3%)                                          |            | 3 (3%)                            | 0 (0%)          | 3 (2%)              | 8 (7%)                            | 4 (5%)          | 12 (6%)             | 4 (3%)                            | 0 (0%)          | 4 (2%)              |
|                                      | General 'why' or 'how' questions                  | 17 (9%)                                         |            | 11 (10%)                          | 2 (2%)          | 13 (7%)             | 11 (9%)                           | 5 (6%)          | 16 (8%)             | 9 (7%)                            | 0 (0%)          | 9 (4%)              |
|                                      | Lack of information                               | 10 (5%)                                         |            | 10 (9%)                           | 8 (9%)          | 18 (9%)             | 5 (4%)                            | 1 (2%)          | 6 (3%)              | 0 (0%)                            | 0 (0%)          | 0 (0%)              |
|                                      | Specific 'why' or 'how' questions                 | 54 (27%)                                        |            | 37 (33%)                          | 28 (33%)        | 65 (33%)            | 36 (31%)                          | 20 (24%)        | 56 (28%)            | 57 (43%)                          | 17 (24%)        | 73 (37%)            |
|                                      | Concerns about management plans and care received | 45 (23%)                                        |            | 20 (18%)                          | 24 (28%)        | 44 (22%)            | 22 (19%)                          | 21 (25%)        | 43 (22%)            | 4 (3%)                            | 7 (10%)         | 12 (6%)             |
| Positive feedback                    | Positive comments about care generally            | 15 (8%)                                         |            | 12 (11%)                          | 12 (14%)        | 24 (12%)            | 16 (14%)                          | 14 (17%)        | 30 (15%)            | 11 (8%)                           | 19 (28%)        | 30 (15%)            |
|                                      | Specific positive comments about staff            | 18 (9%)                                         |            | 17 (15%)                          | 8 (9%)          | 25 (13%)            | 1 (1%)                            | 5 (6%)          | 6 (3%)              | 2 (2%)                            | 2 (3%)          | 5 (2%)              |
| Other                                | Procedural comments                               | 8 (4%)                                          |            | 1 (1%)                            | 2 (2%)          | 3 (2%)              | 1 (1%)                            | 3 (4%)          | 4 (2%)              | 9 (7%)                            | 5 (7%)          | 13 (7%)             |
|                                      | Self-blame or guilt                               | 6 (3%)                                          |            | 0 (0%)                            | 0 (0%)          | 0 (0%)              | 2 (2%)                            | 0 (0%)          | 2 (1%)              | 0 (0%)                            | 0 (0%)          | 2 (1%)              |
|                                      | Administrative feedback                           | 5 (3%)                                          |            | 0 (0%)                            | 0 (0%)          | 0 (0%)              | 6 (5%)                            | 8 (10%)         | 14 (7%)             | 0 (0%)                            | 0 (0%)          | 14 (7%)             |
|                                      | Grief                                             | 3 (2%)                                          |            | 0 (0%)                            | 0 (0%)          | 0 (0%)              | 0 (0%)                            | 0 (0%)          | 0 (0%)              | 0 (0%)                            | 0 (0%)          | 0 (0%)              |

1. Data by type of death for reviews Mar 2022 to Feb 2023 are available in the 2025 annual report tables document

### 3. Issues with care identified in the reviews

Table 3.1: Number and proportion of reviews with issues with care identified and the average number of issues identified per death reviewed, by country and type of death, for reviews completed Jan 2018 to Dec 2025

|                                  | Reviews<br>Jan 2018 to<br>Feb 2019                            | Reviews<br>Mar 2019 to<br>Feb 2020                            | Reviews<br>Mar 2020 to<br>Feb 2021                            | Reviews<br>Mar 2021 to<br>Feb 2022                            | Reviews<br>Mar 2022 to<br>Feb 2023                            | Reviews<br>Jan 2023 to<br>Dec 2023                            | Reviews<br>Jan 2024 to<br>Dec 2024                            | Reviews<br>Jan 2025 to<br>Dec 2025                            |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                  | Reviews with at<br>least one issue<br>identified<br>N (row %) | Reviews with at<br>least one issue<br>identified<br>N (row %) | Reviews with at<br>least one issue<br>identified<br>N (row %) | Reviews with at<br>least one issue<br>identified<br>N (row %) | Reviews with at<br>least one issue<br>identified<br>N (row %) | Reviews with at<br>least one issue<br>identified<br>N (row %) | Reviews with at<br>least one issue<br>identified<br>N (row %) | Reviews with at<br>least one issue<br>identified<br>N (row %) |
| <b>Country:</b>                  |                                                               |                                                               |                                                               |                                                               |                                                               |                                                               |                                                               |                                                               |
| England                          | 1,334 (94%)                                                   | 3,238 (89%)                                                   | 3,456 (95%)                                                   | 3,624 (97%)                                                   | 3,376 (94%)                                                   | 3,538 (93%)                                                   | 3,559 (94%)                                                   | 3,408 (93%)                                                   |
| Wales                            | 23 (100%)                                                     | 68 (84%)                                                      | 144 (99%)                                                     | 171 (100%)                                                    | 181 (97%)                                                     | 150 (97%)                                                     | 153 (93%)                                                     | 158 (94%)                                                     |
| Scotland                         | 59 (97%)                                                      | 131 (87%)                                                     | 160 (91%)                                                     | 230 (98%)                                                     | 188 (99%)                                                     | 175 (99%)                                                     | 135 (94%)                                                     | 146 (90%)                                                     |
| Northern<br>Ireland <sup>1</sup> | --                                                            | --                                                            | 37 (97%)                                                      | 46 (98%)                                                      | 151 (99%)                                                     | 172 (98%)                                                     | 88 (98%)                                                      | 96 (99%)                                                      |
| Overall                          | 1,416 (94%)                                                   | 3,437 (93%)                                                   | 3,797 (95%)                                                   | 4,071 (97%)                                                   | 3,896 (95%)                                                   | 4,035 (94%)                                                   | 3,935 (94%)                                                   | 3,808 (93%)                                                   |
| <b>Type of death:</b>            |                                                               |                                                               |                                                               |                                                               |                                                               |                                                               |                                                               |                                                               |
| Late<br>miscarriages             | 127 (89%)                                                     | 399 (88%)                                                     | 360 (94%)                                                     | 386 (93%)                                                     | 351 (91%)                                                     | 356 (90%)                                                     | 338 (94%)                                                     | 336 (91%)                                                     |
| Stillbirths                      | 940 (93%)                                                     | 1,980 (92%)                                                   | 2,465 (96%)                                                   | 2,346 (98%)                                                   | 2,141 (95%)                                                   | 2,178 (94%)                                                   | 2,077 (94%)                                                   | 2,014 (93%)                                                   |
| Neonatal<br>deaths               | 341 (99%)                                                     | 1,058 (97%)                                                   | 1,332 (97%)                                                   | 1,339 (96%)                                                   | 1,404 (95%)                                                   | 1,501 (94%)                                                   | 1,520 (96%)                                                   | 1,458 (93%)                                                   |

1. Northern Ireland adopted the tool in autumn 2019

**Table 3.2: The most common issues with care identified during pre-conception and antenatal care, for reviews completed Mar 2019<sup>1</sup> to Dec 2025**

| Issue group                                                                                                                  | Reviews Mar 2019 to Feb 2020                     |                                          | Reviews Mar 2020 to Feb 2021                     |                                          | Reviews Mar 2021 to Feb 2022                     |                                          | Reviews Mar 2022 to Feb 2023                     |                                          | Reviews Jan 2023 to Dec 2023                     |                                          | Reviews Jan 2024 to Dec 2024                     |                                          | Reviews Jan 2025 to Dec 2025                     |                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                              | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number of issues relevant to the outcome | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number of issues relevant to the outcome | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number of issues relevant to the outcome | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number of issues relevant to the outcome | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number of issues relevant to the outcome | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number of issues relevant to the outcome | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number of issues relevant to the outcome |
|                                                                                                                              | N=3,693<br>n (%)                                 | N=1,871<br>n (%)                         | N=3,981<br>n (%)                                 | N=1,650<br>n (%)                         | N=4,199<br>n (%)                                 | N=1,789<br>n (%)                         | N=4,111<br>n (%)                                 | N=1,749<br>n (%)                         | N=4,311<br>n (%)                                 | N=1,680<br>n (%)                         | N=4,166<br>n (%)                                 | N=1,464<br>n (%)                         | N=4,110<br>n (%)                                 | N=1,530<br>n (%)                         |
| Inadequate growth surveillance                                                                                               | 712 (19%)                                        | 448 (24%)                                | 748 (19%)                                        | 371 (23%)                                | 1,029 (25%)                                      | 428 (24%)                                | 966 (23%)                                        | 398 (23%)                                | 983 (24%)                                        | 360 (21%)                                | 907 (22%)                                        | 321 (22%)                                | 864 (21%)                                        | 318 (21%)                                |
| Late booking/unbooked pregnancy                                                                                              | 568 (15%)                                        | 201 (11%)                                | 588 (15%)                                        | 139 (8%)                                 | 1,000 (24%)                                      | 160 (9%)                                 | 1,095 (27%)                                      | 174 (10%)                                | 1,274 (31%)                                      | 160 (10%)                                | 1,186 (28%)                                      | 185 (13%)                                | 1,070 (26%)                                      | 148 (10%)                                |
| Smoking assessment and management of exposure to tobacco smoke                                                               | 1,226 (33%)                                      | 196 (11%)                                | 973 (24%)                                        | 129 (8%)                                 | 834 (20%)                                        | 62 (3%)                                  | 1,057 (26%)                                      | 91 (5%)                                  | 1,002 (24%)                                      | 79 (5%)                                  | 680 (16%)                                        | 48 (3%)                                  | 499 (12%)                                        | 38 (2%)                                  |
| Delay in diagnosis or inappropriate management of significant medical/surgical/social problems during pregnancy <sup>4</sup> | 363 (10%)                                        | 343 (18%)                                | 408 (10%)                                        | 334 (20%)                                | 759 (18%)                                        | 440 (25%)                                | 822 (20%)                                        | 462 (26%)                                | 957 (23%)                                        | 508 (30%)                                | 838 (20%)                                        | 412 (28%)                                | 906 (22%)                                        | 461 (30%)                                |
| Inadequate investigation or management of reduced fetal movements <sup>3</sup>                                               | 456 (12%)                                        | 273 (15%)                                | 462 (12%)                                        | 314 (19%)                                | 702 (17%)                                        | 322 (18%)                                | 560 (14%)                                        | 280 (16%)                                | 564 (14%)                                        | 273 (16%)                                | 545 (13%)                                        | 213 (15%)                                | 602 (15%)                                        | 260 (17%)                                |
| Lack of appropriate referral for social issues <sup>2</sup> or screening for domestic abuse at booking                       | 808 (22%)                                        | 51 (3%)                                  | 636 (16%)                                        | 39 (2%)                                  | 407 (10%)                                        | 30 (2%)                                  | 379 (9%)                                         | 23 (1%)                                  | 373 (9%)                                         | 19 (1%)                                  | 367 (9%)                                         | 26 (2%)                                  | 299 (7%)                                         | 21 (1%)                                  |
| Poor preconception advice, counselling or management                                                                         | **6                                              | **6                                      | 173 (4%)                                         | 27 (2%)                                  | 219 (5%)                                         | 23 (1%)                                  | 189 (5%)                                         | 23 (1%)                                  | 234 (6%)                                         | 23 (1%)                                  | 216 (5%)                                         | 21 (1%)                                  | 201 (5%)                                         | 29 (2%)                                  |

|                                                                      |           |          |           |          |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |           |         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Poor antenatal communication with parents                            | **6       | **6      | 213 (5%)  | 32 (2%)  | 212 (5%) | 39 (2%) | 186 (5%) | 37 (2%) | 222 (5%) | 35 (2%) | 255 (6%) | 40 (3%) | 237 (6%)  | 49 (3%) |
| Assessment and management of aspirin requirement                     | 628 (17%) | 128 (7%) | 467 (12%) | 101 (6%) | 332 (8%) | 70 (4%) | 275 (7%) | 72 (4%) | 201 (5%) | 53 (3%) | 170 (4%) | 49 (3%) | 151 (64%) | 38 (2%) |
| Screening for, or management of, gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) | 246 (7%)  | 38 (2%)  | 235 (6%)  | 30 (2%)  | 269 (6%) | 43 (2%) | 268 (7%) | 31 (2%) | 248 (6%) | 31 (2%) | 202 (5%) | 25 (2%) | 211 (5%)  | 37 (2%) |
| Antenatal risk assessment and management                             | **6       | **6      | **6       | **6      | **6      | **6     | 157 (4%) | 53 (3%) | 179 (4%) | 42 (3%) | 127 (3%) | 30 (2%) | 161 (4%)  | 45 (3%) |

1. Data for reviews Jan 2018 to Feb 2019 have been removed due to space constraints. These are available in the 2025 annual report tables document
2. Includes: housing, benefits, social support, teenager, other vulnerabilities
3. Includes: no risk assessment; investigations indicated not carried out; poor quality, or incorrectly interpreted CTGs; lack of appropriate written information for mother
4. Includes: inappropriate management according to guidelines
5. This percentage is the proportion of all relevant issues identified including issues affecting a small proportion of reviews which are not listed in the table.
6. Not reported in the results in these years

**Table 3.3: The most common issues with care identified during labour and birth care, for reviews completed Mar 2019<sup>1</sup> to Dec 2025**

| Issue group                                                                                                                          | Reviews                                          |                                                  | Reviews                                          |                                                  | Reviews                                          |                                                  | Reviews                                          |                                                  | Reviews                                          |                                                  | Reviews                                          |                                                  | Reviews                                          |                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                      | Mar 2019 to Feb 2020                             |                                                  | Mar 2020 to Feb 2021                             |                                                  | Mar 2021 to Feb 2022                             |                                                  | Mar 2022 to Feb 2023                             |                                                  | Jan 2023 to Dec 2023                             |                                                  | Jan 2024 to Dec 2024                             |                                                  | Jan 2025 to Dec 2025                             |                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                      | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue | Number and percentage of reviews with each issue |
|                                                                                                                                      | N=3,693<br>n (%)                                 | N=869<br>n (%)                                   | N=3,981<br>n (%)                                 | N=1,037<br>n (%)                                 | N=4,199<br>n (%)                                 | N=979<br>n (%)                                   | N=4,111<br>n (%)                                 | N=792<br>n (%)                                   | N=4,311<br>n (%)                                 | N=1,023<br>n (%)                                 | N=4,166<br>n (%)                                 | N=1,059<br>n (%)                                 | N=4,110<br>n (%)                                 | N=907<br>n (%)                                   |
| Issues with monitoring of the mother <sup>2</sup>                                                                                    | 944 (26%)                                        | 114 (13%)                                        | 904 (23%)                                        | 115 (11%)                                        | 914 (22%)                                        | 92 (9%)                                          | 886 (22%)                                        | 84 (11%)                                         | 936 (22%)                                        | 89 (9%)                                          | 802 (19%)                                        | 93 (9%)                                          | 820 (20%)                                        | 86 (9%)                                          |
| Fetal monitoring issues <sup>3</sup>                                                                                                 | 162 (4%)                                         | 180 (21%)                                        | 162 (4%)                                         | 177 (17%)                                        | 311 (7%)                                         | 185 (19%)                                        | 244 (6%)                                         | 121 (15%)                                        | 319 (7%)                                         | 157 (15%)                                        | 330 (8%)                                         | 159 (15%)                                        | 326 (8%)                                         | 169 (18%)                                        |
| No assessment of mother's risk status or inadequate management at the start of her care in labour or during the course of her labour | 198 (5%)                                         | 83 (10%)                                         | 221 (6%)                                         | 122 (12%)                                        | 281 (7%)                                         | 108 (11%)                                        | 266 (6%)                                         | 85 (11%)                                         | 311 (7%)                                         | 103 (10%)                                        | 336 (8%)                                         | 115 (11%)                                        | 314 (8%)                                         | 88 (10%)                                         |
| Staffing issues <sup>4</sup>                                                                                                         | 289 (5%)                                         | 132 (15%)                                        | 169 (4%)                                         | 136 (13%)                                        | 233 (6%)                                         | 121 (12%)                                        | 194 (5%)                                         | 88 (11%)                                         | 296 (7%)                                         | 153 (15%)                                        | 263 (6%)                                         | 125 (12%)                                        | 220 (5%)                                         | 90 (10%)                                         |
| Issues with communication with mothers with poor/no English                                                                          | 244 (7%)                                         | 45 (5%)                                          | 193 (5%)                                         | 22 (2%)                                          | 283 (7%)                                         | 23 (2%)                                          | 260 (6%)                                         | 33 (4%)                                          | 289 (7%)                                         | 28 (3%)                                          | 320 (8%)                                         | 32 (3%)                                          | 293 (7%)                                         | 39 (4%)                                          |
| Issues in management of preterm and threatened preterm labour                                                                        | 73 (2%)                                          | 28 (3%)                                          | 93 (2%)                                          | 50 (5%)                                          | 166 (4%)                                         | 69 (7%)                                          | 198 (5%)                                         | 70 (9%)                                          | 238 (6%)                                         | 112 (11%)                                        | 241 (6%)                                         | 119 (11%)                                        | 210 (5%)                                         | 81 (9%)                                          |
| Inappropriate setting/location of birth                                                                                              | 138 (4%)                                         | 50 (6%)                                          | 178 (5%)                                         | 84 (8%)                                          | 179 (4%)                                         | 97 (10%)                                         | 201 (5%)                                         | 104 (13%)                                        | 217 (5%)                                         | 97 (9%)                                          | 239 (6%)                                         | 125 (12%)                                        | 190 (5%)                                         | 99 (11%)                                         |
| Issues with birth mode(s) <sup>5</sup>                                                                                               | 101 (3%)                                         | 68 (8%)                                          | 108 (3%)                                         | 81 (8%)                                          | 120 (3%)                                         | 79 (8%)                                          | 130 (3%)                                         | 68 (9%)                                          | 147 (3%)                                         | 81 (8%)                                          | 143 (3%)                                         | 74 (7%)                                          | 154 (4%)                                         | 73 (8%)                                          |

1. Data for reviews Jan 2018 to Feb 2019 have been removed due to space constraints. These are available in the 2025 annual report tables document
2. Includes: infrequent observations and/or lack of partogram
3. Includes: incorrect method of fetal monitoring, interpretation or management, from the latent phase of labour through to established labour and birth
4. Includes: insufficiently senior staff involved in care and lack of one-to-one care in established labour
5. Includes: inappropriate choice, timing and management of mode of birth

**Table 3.4: The most common issues with care identified during neonatal care including resuscitation and stabilisation (excluding end of life care), for reviews completed Mar 2019<sup>1</sup> to Dec 2025**

| Issue group                               | Reviews Mar 2019 to Feb 2020          |                                          | Reviews Mar 2020 to Feb 2021          |                                          | Reviews Mar 2021 to Feb 2022          |                                          | Reviews Mar 2022 to Feb 2023          |                                          | Reviews Jan 2023 to Dec 2023          |                                          | Reviews Jan 2024 to Dec 2024          |                                          | Reviews Jan 2025 to Dec 2025          |                                          |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
|                                           | Number and of reviews with each issue | Number of issues relevant to the outcome | Number and of reviews with each issue | Number of issues relevant to the outcome | Number and of reviews with each issue | Number of issues relevant to the outcome | Number and of reviews with each issue | Number of issues relevant to the outcome | Number and of reviews with each issue | Number of issues relevant to the outcome | Number and of reviews with each issue | Number of issues relevant to the outcome | Number and of reviews with each issue | Number of issues relevant to the outcome |
|                                           | N=1,086<br>n (%)                      | N=446<br>n (%)                           | N=1,381<br>n (%)                      | N=440<br>n (%)                           | N=1,389<br>n (%)                      | N=453<br>n (%)                           | N=1,480<br>n (%)                      | N=468<br>n (%)                           | N=1,589<br>n (%)                      | N=552<br>n (%)                           | N=1,591<br>n (%)                      | N=660<br>n (%)                           | N=1,565<br>n (%)                      | N=585<br>n (%)                           |
| <b>Inadequate documentation:</b>          |                                       |                                          |                                       |                                          |                                       |                                          |                                       |                                          |                                       |                                          |                                       |                                          |                                       |                                          |
| At all stages of care                     | 791 (73%)                             | 125 (28%)                                | 721 (52%)                             | 154 (35%)                                | 1,132 (81%)                           | 73 (16%)                                 | 882 (60%)                             | 77 (18%)                                 | 1,237 (78%)                           | 75 (14%)                                 | 1,114 (70%)                           | 109 (17%)                                | 1,012 (65%)                           | 113 (19%)                                |
| Resuscitation & stabilisation             | 525 (48%)                             | 441 (32%)                                |                                       |                                          | 609 (44%)                             |                                          | 447 (30%)                             | 51 (12%)                                 | 563 (35%)                             | 51 (9%)                                  | 506 (32%)                             | 77 (12%)                                 | 519 (33%)                             | 76 (13%)                                 |
| Transfer to neonatal unit                 | 107 (10%)                             |                                          | 92 (7%)                               |                                          | 91 (7%)                               |                                          | 54 (4%)                               | 8(2%)                                    | 77 (5%)                               | 5 (1%)                                   | 58 (4%)                               | 7 (1%)                                   | 81 (5%)                               | 7 (1%)                                   |
| Neonatal care                             | 134 (12%)                             | 162 (12%)                                |                                       |                                          | 353 (25%)                             |                                          | 297 (20%)                             | 15 (4%)                                  | 311 (20%)                             | 16 (3%)                                  | 275 (17%)                             | 22 (3%)                                  | 302 (19%)                             | 30 (5%)                                  |
| Transfer to an external neonatal unit     | 25 (2%)                               | 26 (2%)                                  |                                       |                                          | 79 (6%)                               |                                          | 84 (6%)                               | <10                                      | 96 (6%)                               | 3 (1%)                                   | 72 (5%)                               | 3 (%)                                    | 110 (7%)                              | 0                                        |
| <b>Thermal management issues:</b>         |                                       |                                          |                                       |                                          |                                       |                                          |                                       |                                          |                                       |                                          |                                       |                                          |                                       |                                          |
| At all stages of care                     | 272 (25%)                             | 88 (20%)                                 | 345 (25%)                             | 138 (31%)                                | 376 (27%)                             | 123 (27%)                                | 367 (25%)                             | 108 (26%)                                | 439 (28%)                             | 140 (25%)                                | 464 (29%)                             | 151 (23%)                                | 466 (30%)                             | 148 (25%)                                |
| Resuscitation                             | 24 (3%)                               | 51 (4%)                                  |                                       |                                          | 48 (3%)                               |                                          | 26 (2%)                               | <10                                      | 50 (3%)                               | 24 (4%)                                  | 52 (3%)                               | 16 (2%)                                  | 58 (4%)                               | 26 (4%)                                  |
| Neonatal care                             | 64 (5%)                               |                                          | 64 (5%)                               |                                          | 78 (6%)                               |                                          | 91 (6%)                               | 33 (8%)                                  | 103 (6%)                              | 26 (5%)                                  | 137 (9%)                              | 41 (6%)                                  | 162 (10%)                             | 36 (6%)                                  |
| Transfer to neonatal unit/ other location | 174 (16%)                             | 230 (17%)                                |                                       |                                          | 250 (18%)                             |                                          | 250 (17%)                             | 69 (16%)                                 | 286 (18%)                             | 90 (16%)                                 | 275 (17%)                             | 94 (14%)                                 | 256 (16%)                             | 86 (15%)                                 |

| Issues during resuscitation with:                   |           |          |           |          |           |          |           |          |           |          |           |          |                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-------------------|
| Respiratory management <sup>2</sup>                 | 183 (17%) | 55 (13%) | 218 (16%) | 71 (16%) | 209 (15%) | 66 (15%) | 174 (12%) | 57 (14%) | 214 (13%) | 62 (11%) | 228 (14%) | 65 (10%) | 208 (13%) 53 (9%) |
| Delayed cord clamping                               |           |          |           |          | 61 (4%)   | 6 (1%)   | 76 (5%)   | 16 (4%)  | 98 (6%)   | 14 (3%)  | 88 (6%)   | 17 (3%)  | 61 (4%) 10 (2%)   |
| Resuscitation not in line with NLS                  |           |          |           |          | 49 (4%)   | 21 (5%)  | 29 (2%)   | 14 (3%)  | 53 (3%)   | 21 (4%)  | 52 (3%)   | 15 (2%)  | 51 (3%) 29 (5%)   |
| Issues during neonatal care with:                   |           |          |           |          |           |          |           |          |           |          |           |          |                   |
| Cardiovascular management <sup>3</sup>              | 45 (4%)   | 43 (10%) | 60 (4%)   | 10 (2%)  | 60 (4%)   | 6 (1%)   | 64 (4%)   | 16 (4%)  | 58 (4%)   | 15 (3%)  | 88 (6%)   | 27 (4%)  | 78 (5%) 12 (2%)   |
| Respiratory management                              |           |          |           |          | 69 (5%)   | 18 (4%)  | 86 (6%)   | 25 (6%)  | 92 (6%)   | 25 (5%)  | 102 (6%)  | 20 (3%)  | 111 (7%) 33 (6%)  |
| Issues with communication with parents <sup>4</sup> | 43 (4%)   | 56 (3%)  | 52 (4%)   | 11 (3%)  | 108 (8%)  | 11 (2%)  | 85 (6%)   | 9 (2%)   | 95 (6%)   | 10 (2%)  | 105 (7%)  | 11 (2%)  | 133 (8%) 19 (3%)  |

1. Data for reviews Jan 2018 to Feb 2019 have been removed due to space constraints. These are available in the 2025 annual report tables document
2. Includes: issues around establishing ventilation, intubation, positive pressure respiratory support, oxygen saturation monitoring and administration of surfactant
3. Includes: line placement and radiological confirmation of line position
4. Includes: mothers/parents with poor/no English and at any stage of resuscitation, transfer and neonatal care

**Table 3.5: The three most common issues with care identified during end-of-life care (neonatal deaths), for reviews completed Jan 2018 to Dec 2025**

| Issue group                                                                     | Reviews<br>Jan 2018 to<br>Feb 2019 | Reviews<br>Mar 2019 to<br>Feb 2020 | Reviews<br>Mar 2020 to<br>Feb 2021 | Reviews<br>Mar 2021 to<br>Feb 2022 | Reviews<br>Mar 2022 to<br>Feb 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2023 to<br>Dec 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2024 to<br>Dec 2024 | Reviews<br>Jan 2025 to<br>Dec 2025 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                                                                                 | Number of<br>reviews               | Number of<br>reviews               | Number of<br>reviews               | Number of<br>reviews               | Number of<br>reviews               | Number of<br>reviews               | Number of<br>reviews               | Number of<br>reviews               |
|                                                                                 | N=346<br>n (%)                     | N=1,086<br>n (% <sup>4</sup> )     | N=1,381<br>n (%)                   | N=1,389<br>n (% <sup>4</sup> )     | N=1,480<br>n (%)                   | N=1,589<br>n (% <sup>4</sup> )     | N=1,591<br>n (%)                   | N=1,565<br>n (%)                   |
| Post-mortem not discussed with parents prior to the baby's death                | 52 (15%)                           | 151 (14%)                          | 217 (16%)                          | 237 (17%)                          | 209 (14%)                          | 209 (13%)                          | 225 (14%)                          | 224 (14%)                          |
| Organ donation not discussed with parents despite no specific contraindications | 82 (24%)                           | 209 (19%)                          | 225 (16%)                          | 184 (13%)                          | 167 (11%)                          | 155 (10%)                          | 138 (9%)                           | 170 (11%)                          |
| Inadequate documentation                                                        | 57 (16%)                           | 180 (17%)                          | 114 (8%)                           | 117 (8%)                           | 153 (10%)                          | 160 (10%)                          | 96 (6%)                            | 106 (7%)                           |

**Table 3.6: The most common issues with care identified after the baby had died, for reviews completed Jan 2018 to Dec 2025**

| Issue group                                                                                         | Reviews Jan 2018 to Feb 2019 | Reviews Mar 2019 to Feb 2020 | Reviews Mar 2020 to Feb 2021 | Reviews Mar 2021 to Feb 2022 | Reviews Mar 2022 to Feb 2023 | Reviews Jan 2023 to Dec 2023 | Reviews Jan 2024 to Dec 2024 | Reviews Jan 2025 to Dec 2025 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
|                                                                                                     | Number of reviews            | Number of reviews            | Number of reviews            | Number of reviews            | Number of reviews            | Number of reviews            | Number of reviews            | Number of reviews            |
|                                                                                                     | (N=1,500)<br>n (%)           | N=3,693<br>n (%)             | N=3,981<br>n (%)             | N=4,199<br>n (%)             | N=4,111<br>n (%)             | N=4,311<br>n (%)             | N=4,166<br>n (%)             | N=4,110<br>n (%)             |
| Baby had to be transferred elsewhere for a post-mortem                                              | **1                          | 546 (15%)                    | 1,024 (26%)                  | 1,081 (26%)                  | 1,057 (26%)                  | 1,078 (26%)                  | 913 (22%)                    | 883 (21%)                    |
| Placental histology was performed but not by a perinatal/paediatric pathologist                     | 177 (12%)                    | 351 (10%)                    | 287 (7%)                     | 275 (7%)                     | 279 (7%)                     | 280 (7%)                     | 265 (6%)                     | 239 (6%)                     |
| The placenta was not sent for histological examination                                              | 38 (3%)                      | 136 (4%)                     | 132 (3%)                     | 99 (2%)                      | 87 (2%)                      | 96 (2%)                      | 75 (2%)                      | 92 (2%)                      |
| The parents were not offered a hospital post-mortem                                                 | 16 (1%)                      | 63 (2%)                      | 77 (2%)                      | 41 (1%)                      | 44 (1%)                      | 76 (2%)                      | 59 (1%)                      | 61 (1%)                      |
| It is not possible to assess from the notes whether the parents were offered a hospital post-mortem | 19 (1%)                      | 39 (1%)                      | 30 (1%)                      | 46 (1%)                      | 40 (1%)                      | 42 (1%)                      | 35 (1%)                      | 34 (1%)                      |
| The placenta was sent for histological examination but there is no result in the notes              | 27 (2%)                      | 52 (1%)                      | 40 (1%)                      | 34 (1%)                      | 41 (1%)                      | 50 (1%)                      | 33 (1%)                      | 26 (1%)                      |
| The parents consented to a full or limited post-mortem examination but this was not carried out     | 17 (1%)                      | 7 (<1%)                      | 4 (<1%)                      | 9 (<1%)                      | 2 (<1%)                      | 1 (<1%)                      | 1 (<1%)                      | 8 (<1%)                      |

1. Not reported in the findings in 2018-19

**Table 3.7: The most common issues with bereavement care identified, for reviews completed Aug 2020<sup>1</sup> to Dec 2025**

| Issue group                                                                                                                                 | Reviews<br>Aug 2020 to<br>Feb 2021 <sup>1</sup> | Reviews<br>Mar 2021 to<br>Feb 2022 | Reviews<br>Mar 2022 to<br>Feb 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2023 to<br>Dec 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2024 to Dec 2024                         |                                                     |                             | Reviews<br>Jan 2025 to Dec 2025                         |                                                     |                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                             | Number of<br>reviews                            | Number of<br>reviews               | Number of<br>reviews               | Number of<br>reviews               | Number<br>of late<br>miscarriages<br>and<br>stillbirths | Number<br>of<br>reviews<br>of<br>neonatal<br>deaths | Number<br>of all<br>reviews | Number<br>of late<br>miscarriages<br>and<br>stillbirths | Number<br>of<br>reviews<br>of<br>neonatal<br>deaths | Number<br>of all<br>reviews |
|                                                                                                                                             | N=2,322 <sup>1</sup><br>n (%)                   | N=4,199<br>n (%)                   | N=4,111<br>n (%)                   | N=4,311<br>n (%)                   | N=2,575<br>n (%)                                        | N=1,591<br>n (%)                                    | N=4,166<br>n (%)            | N=2,545<br>n (%)                                        | N=1,565<br>n (%)                                    | N=4,110<br>n (%)            |
| Policy, support and practical help to take their baby home was not available                                                                | 542 (24%)                                       | 917 (22%)                          | 748 (18%)                          | 781 (18%)                          | 370 (14%)                                               | 313 (20%)                                           | 683 (16%)                   | 306 (12%)                                               | 227 (15%)                                           | 533 (13%)                   |
| Inadequate documentation regarding taking the baby home                                                                                     | 413 (18%)                                       | 566 (13%)                          | 513 (12%)                          | 421 (10%)                          | 200 (8%)                                                | 152 (10%)                                           | 352 (8%)                    | 212 (8%)                                                | 140 (9%)                                            | 352 (9%)                    |
| Inadequate documentation regarding access to a cold cot                                                                                     | 237 (10%)                                       | 321 (8%)                           | 221 (5%)                           | 164 (4%)                           | 42 (2%)                                                 | 96 (6%)                                             | 138 (3%)                    | 22 (1%)                                                 | 88 (6%)                                             | 110 (3%)                    |
| Inadequate documentation regarding transfer to mortuary care                                                                                | 187 (8%)                                        | 306 (7%)                           | 211 (5%)                           | 167 (4%)                           | 62 (2%)                                                 | 57 (4%)                                             | 119 (3%)                    | 44 (2%)                                                 | 62 (4%)                                             | 106 (3%)                    |
| Location and quality of the bereavement suite inadequate including being affected by service modifications due to the pandemic <sup>2</sup> | 207 (9%)                                        | 267 (6%)                           | 347 (8%)                           | 389 (9%)                           | 160 (6%)                                                | 114 (7%)                                            | 274 (7%)                    | 171 (7%)                                                | 68 (4%)                                             | 239 (6%)                    |
| Inadequate documentation to tell if bereavement care respected cultural, religious and spiritual wishes of the parents                      | 134 (6%)                                        | 228 (5%)                           | 231 (6%)                           | 207 (5%)                           | 116 (5%)                                                | 81 (5%)                                             | 197 (5%)                    | 94 (4%)                                                 | 83 (5%)                                             | 177 (4%)                    |
| Bereavement care adversely affected by service modifications due to the pandemic <sup>2</sup>                                               | --                                              | 218 (5%)                           | 116 (3%)                           | 47 (1%)                            | 6 (<1%)                                                 | 3 (<1%)                                             | 9 (<1%)                     | --                                                      | --                                                  | --                          |

|                                                                                                                                     |          |          |          |          |         |          |          |          |          |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Inadequate documentation to tell if bereavement care provided included practical help and/or emotional support                      | 95 (4%)  | 169 (4%) | 156 (4%) | 160 (4%) | 52 (2%) | 76 (5%)  | 128 (3%) | 54 (2%)  | 82 (5%)  | 136 (3%) |
| Inadequate documentation to assess the location and quality of the bereavement care                                                 | 149 (4%) | 178 (4%) | 129 (3%) | 18 (1%)  | 87 (5%) | 105 (3%) | 17 (1%)  | 112 (7%) | 129 (3%) |          |
| Poor quality of the bereavement care offered                                                                                        | 64 (3%)  | 118 (3%) | 143 (3%) | 155 (4%) | 46 (2%) | 120 (8%) | 166 (4%) | 44 (2%)  | 86 (5%)  | 130 (3%) |
| Inadequate documentation to tell if a named contact for questions after bereavement was identified                                  | 69 (3%)  | 83 (2%)  | 54 (1%)  | 40 (1%)  | 9 (<1%) | 15 (1%)  | 24 (1%)  | 12 (<1%) | 30 (2%)  | 42 (10%) |
| Bereavement checklist was not included in the notes                                                                                 | 51 (3%)  | 110 (3%) | 139 (3%) | 154 (4%) | 82 (3%) | 86 (5%)  | 168 (4%) | 70 (3%)  | 92 (6%)  | 162 (4%) |
| Parents were not offered the use of a cold cot                                                                                      | 36 (2%)  | 68 (2%)  | 65 (2%)  | 78 (2%)  | 14 (1%) | 51 (3%)  | 65 (2%)  | 6 (<1%)  | 40 (3%)  | 46 (1%)  |
| Bereavement care did not provide practical health and/or emotional support                                                          |          |          | 99 (2%)  | 92 (2%)  | 27 (1%) | 18 (1%)  | 45 (1%)  | 28 (1%)  | 18 (1%)  | 46 (1%)  |
| Bereavement care not provided by trained staff                                                                                      |          |          | 58 (1%)  | 39 (1%)  | 13 (1%) | 4 (<1%)  | 17 (<1%) | 4 (<1%)  | 6 (<1%)  | 10 (<1%) |
| A named contact was not identified for questions after discharge/inadequate documentation to tell if a named contact was identified |          |          | 109 (3%) | 38 (1%)  | 9 (<1%) | 23 (1%)  | 32 (1%)  | 2 (<1%)  | 7 (<1%)  | 9 (<1%)  |
| Other <sup>3</sup>                                                                                                                  | 135      | 314 (7%) | 154 (4%) | 159 (4%) | 70 (3%) | 86 (5%)  | 156 (4%) | 44 (2%)  | 85 (5%)  | 129 (3%) |

1. Bereavement care questions were incorporated into the PMRT in August 2020

2. Specific pandemic related questions were incorporated into the PMRT in August 2020

3. Other - includes six additional issues each affecting 50 or fewer reviews overall for Aug 2020 to Dec 2024; includes seven additional issues affecting 30 or fewer reviews overall Jan 2025 to Dec 2025.

**Table 3.8: The most common issues with preconception, antenatal, labour and birth care identified, by type of death, reviews completed Jan 2025 to Dec 2025**

| Issue group                                                                 | Late miscarriages and stillbirths |                       | Neonatal deaths              |                       | All perinatal deaths         |                       | P value <sup>1</sup> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
|                                                                             | Number of reviews<br>N=2,545      | Percentage of reviews | Number of reviews<br>N=1,565 | Percentage of reviews | Number of reviews<br>N=4,110 | Percentage of reviews |                      |
|                                                                             |                                   |                       |                              |                       |                              |                       |                      |
|                                                                             |                                   |                       |                              |                       |                              |                       |                      |
| Preconception and antenatal care                                            |                                   |                       |                              |                       |                              |                       |                      |
| Late booking or unbooked                                                    | 697                               | 27%                   | 373                          | 24%                   | 1,070                        | 26%                   | 0.012                |
| Inadequate growth surveillance                                              | 674                               | 26%                   | 190                          | 12%                   | 864                          | 21%                   | <0.001               |
| Delayed or inappropriate management of medical, surgical or social problems | 561                               | 22%                   | 345                          | 22%                   | 906                          | 22%                   | 0.99 (NS)            |
| Smoking assessment management                                               | 308                               | 12%                   | 191                          | 12%                   | 499                          | 12%                   | 0.92 (NS)            |
| Inadequate management of reduced fetal movements                            | 479                               | 18%                   | 123                          | 8%                    | 602                          | 15%                   | <0.001               |
| Labour and birth care                                                       |                                   |                       |                              |                       |                              |                       |                      |
| Maternal monitoring in labour                                               | 576                               | 23%                   | 244                          | 16%                   | 820                          | 20%                   | <0.001               |
| Fetal monitoring in labour                                                  | 32                                | 1%                    | 294                          | 19%                   | 326                          | 8%                    | <0.001               |
| Assessment of maternal risk status                                          | 171                               | 7%                    | 143                          | 9%                    | 314                          | 8%                    | 0.005                |
| Staffing issues                                                             | 49                                | 2%                    | 171                          | 11%                   | 220                          | 5%                    | <0.001               |
| Communication with mothers with poor or no spoken English                   | 183                               | 7%                    | 110                          | 7%                    | 293                          | 7%                    | 0.84 (NS)            |

1. P value (2df) - Chi square test of statistical significance for comparisons of proportions comparing reviews of late miscarriages/stillbirths with neonatal deaths; P<0.05 represents a statistically significant difference

## 4. Grading of care

**Table 4.1: Grading of care during pregnancy, labour and birth for late miscarriages & stillbirths, for reviews completed Jan 2018 to Dec 2025<sup>1</sup>**

|                                                                            | Reviews<br>Jan 2018 to<br>Feb 2019 | Reviews<br>Mar 2019 to<br>Feb 2020 | Reviews<br>Mar 2020 to<br>Feb 2021 | Reviews<br>Mar 2021 to<br>Feb 2022 | Reviews<br>Mar 2022 to<br>Feb 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2023 to<br>Dec 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2024 to<br>Dec 2024 | Reviews<br>Jan 2025 to<br>Dec 2025 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                                                                            | N = 1,154<br>n (%)                 | N = 2,607<br>n (%)                 | N = 2,600<br>n (%)                 | N = 2,810<br>n (%)                 | N = 2,631<br>n (%)                 | N=2,722<br>n (%)                   | N=2,575<br>n (%)                   | N=2,545<br>n (%)                   |
| A – No issues with care identified                                         | 710 (62%)                          | 1,496 (57%)                        | 1,434 (55%)                        | 1,400 (50%)                        | 1,087 (41%)                        | 1,104 (41%)                        | 1,025 (40%)                        | 850 (33%)                          |
| B - Care issues that would have made no difference to the outcome          | 291 (25%)                          | 705 (27%)                          | 721 (28%)                          | 867 (31%)                          | 1,023 (39%)                        | 1,069 (39%)                        | 1,054 (41%)                        | 1,116 (44%)                        |
| C - Care issues which may have made a difference to the outcome            | 114 (10%)                          | 329 (13%)                          | 357 (14%)                          | 394 (14%)                          | 388 (14%)                          | 422 (16%)                          | 393 (15%)                          | 433 (17%)                          |
| D - Care issues which were likely to have made a difference to the outcome | 30 (3%)                            | 72 (3%)                            | 83 (3%)                            | 124 (4%)                           | 115 (4%)                           | 117 (4%)                           | 89 (3%)                            | 119 (5%)                           |
| Unrecorded                                                                 | 9 (1%)                             | 5 (<1%)                            | 5 (<1%)                            | 25 (1%)                            | 18 (<1%)                           | 10 (<1%)                           | 14 (1%)                            | 27 (1%)                            |

1. In previous years we have reported the grading of care figures separately for reviews where an external panel member was present. Due to technical reasons, it is not possible to report these figures for reviews conducted in 2025.

**Table 4.2: Grading of care during pregnancy, labour and birth for neonatal deaths, for reviews completed Jan 2018 to Dec 2025<sup>1</sup>**

|                                                                            | Reviews<br>Jan 2018 to<br>Feb 2019 | Reviews<br>Mar 2019 to<br>Feb 2020 | Reviews<br>Mar 2020 to<br>Feb 2021 | Reviews<br>Mar 2021 to<br>Feb 2022 | Reviews<br>Mar 2022 to<br>Feb 2023 | Review<br>Jan 2023 to<br>Dec 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2024 to<br>Dec 2024 | Reviews<br>Jan 2025 to<br>Dec 2025 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                                                                            | N = 346                            | N = 1,086                          | N = 1,381                          | N = 1,389                          | N = 1,480                          | N=1,589                           | N = 1,591                          | N=1,565                            |
|                                                                            | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                             | n (%)                              | n (%)                              |
| A – No issues with care identified                                         | 214 (62%)                          | 678 (62%)                          | 751 (54%)                          | 713 (51%)                          | 700 (47%)                          | 692 (44%)                         | 595 (37%)                          | 478 (31%)                          |
| B - Care issues that would have made no difference to the outcome          | 102 (29%)                          | 278 (26%)                          | 406 (29%)                          | 445 (32%)                          | 518 (35%)                          | 640 (40%)                         | 723 (45%)                          | 730 (47%)                          |
| C - Care issues which may have made a difference to the outcome            | 20 (6%)                            | 84 (8%)                            | 111 (8%)                           | 148 (11%)                          | 159 (11%)                          | 157 (10%)                         | 182 (11%)                          | 184 (12%)                          |
| D - Care issues which were likely to have made a difference to the outcome | 7 (1%)                             | 18 (2%)                            | 41 (3%)                            | 37 (3%)                            | 46 (3%)                            | 63 (4%)                           | 59 (4%)                            | 54 (4%)                            |
| Unrecorded                                                                 | 3 (1%)                             | 28 (3%)                            | 72 (5%)                            | 46 (3%)                            | 57 (4%)                            | 37 (2%)                           | 32 (2%)                            | 119 (6%)                           |

1. In previous years we have reported the grading of care figures separately for reviews where an external panel member was present. Due to technical reasons, it is not possible to report these figures for reviews conducted in 2025.

**Table 4.3: Grading of care from birth to the death of the baby for neonatal deaths, for reviews completed Jan 2018 to Dec 2025<sup>1</sup>**

|                                                                            | Reviews<br>Jan 2018 to<br>Feb 2019 | Reviews<br>Mar 2019 to<br>Feb 2020 | Reviews<br>Mar 2020 to<br>Feb 2021 | Reviews<br>Mar 2021 to<br>Feb 2022 | Reviews<br>Mar 2022 to<br>Feb 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2023 to<br>Dec 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2024 to<br>Dec 2024 | Reviews<br>Jan 2025 to<br>Dec 2025 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                                                                            | N = 346                            | N = 1,086                          | N = 1,381                          | N = 1,389                          | N = 1,480                          | N=1,589                            | N=1,591                            | N=1,565                            |
|                                                                            | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              |
| A – No issues with care identified                                         | 237 (68%)                          | 679 (63%)                          | 852 (62%)                          | 791 (57%)                          | 827 (56%)                          | 823 (52%)                          | 732 (46%)                          | 638 (41%)                          |
| B - Care issues that would have made no difference to the outcome          | 92 (27%)                           | 342 (32%)                          | 446 (32%)                          | 452 (33%)                          | 511 (35%)                          | 606 (38%)                          | 707 (44%)                          | 681 (44%)                          |
| C - Care issues which may have made a difference to the outcome            | 11 (3%)                            | 46 (4%)                            | 68 (5%)                            | 100 (7%)                           | 83 (6%)                            | 104 (7%)                           | 115 (7%)                           | 98 (6%)                            |
| D - Care issues which were likely to have made a difference to the outcome | 1 (<1%)                            | 8 (1%)                             | 10 (1%)                            | 7 (<1%)                            | 13 (1%)                            | 19 (1%)                            | 13 (1%)                            | 20 (1%)                            |
| Unrecorded                                                                 | 5 (1%)                             | 11 (1%)                            | 5 (<1%)                            | 39 (3%)                            | 46 (3%)                            | 37 (2%)                            | 24 (2%)                            | 128 (8%)                           |

1. In previous years we have reported the grading of care figures separately for reviews where an external panel member was present. Due to technical reasons, it is not possible to report these figures for reviews conducted in 2025.

**Table 4.4: Most serious level<sup>1</sup> of grading of care during pregnancy, labour, birth and during the neonatal period for neonatal deaths, for reviews completed Jan 2018 to Dec 2025<sup>2</sup>**

|                                                                            | Reviews<br>Jan 2018 to<br>Feb 2019 | Reviews<br>Mar 2019 to<br>Feb 2020 | Reviews<br>Mar 2020 to<br>Feb 2021 | Reviews<br>Mar 2021 to<br>Feb 2022 | Reviews<br>Mar 2022 to<br>Feb 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2023 to<br>Dec 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2024 to<br>Dec 2024 | Reviews<br>Jan 2025 to<br>Dec 2025 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                                                                            | N = 346                            | N = 1,086                          | N = 1,381                          | N = 1,389                          | N = 1,480                          | N=1,589                            | N=1,591                            | N=1,565                            |
|                                                                            | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              |
| A – No issues with care identified                                         | 159 (46%)                          | 507 (47%)                          | 582 (42%)                          | 501 (36%)                          | 477 (32%)                          | 471 (30%)                          | 351 (22%)                          | 277 (18%)                          |
| B - Care issues that would have made no difference to the outcome          | 147 (42%)                          | 439 (40%)                          | 586 (42%)                          | 600 (43%)                          | 696 (47%)                          | 794 (50%)                          | 894 (56%)                          | 859 (55%)                          |
| C - Care issues which may have made a difference to the outcome            | 26 (7%)                            | 111 (10%)                          | 161 (12%)                          | 213 (15%)                          | 214 (15%)                          | 225 (14%)                          | 263 (17%)                          | 245 (16%)                          |
| D - Care issues which were likely to have made a difference to the outcome | 8 (2%)                             | 24 (2%)                            | 50 (4%)                            | 42 (3%)                            | 55 (4%)                            | 75 (5%)                            | 68 (4%)                            | 72 (5%)                            |
| Unrecorded                                                                 | 6 (2%)                             | 5 (<1%)                            | 2 (<1%)                            | 33 (2%)                            | 38 (3%)                            | 24 (2%)                            | 15 (1%)                            | 112 (7%)                           |

1. The "most serious" grading of care means that if the grading of care during pregnancy, labour and birth is B, but the care during the period from birth to the death of the baby is C, then the "most serious" grading is taken as C for the whole period of care up to the death of the baby. This is applied to all combinations of care for these two periods.

2. In previous years we have reported the grading of care figures separately for reviews where an external panel member was present. Due to technical reasons, it is not possible to report these figures for reviews conducted in 2025.

**Table 4.5: Grading of bereavement care following late miscarriage and stillbirth, for reviews completed Jan 2018 to Dec 2025<sup>1</sup>**

|                                                                            | Reviews<br>Jan 2018 to<br>Feb 2019 | Reviews<br>Mar 2019 to<br>Feb 2020 | Reviews<br>Mar 2020 to<br>Feb 2021 | Reviews<br>Mar 2021 to<br>Feb 2022 | Reviews<br>Mar 2022 to<br>Feb 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2023 to<br>Dec 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2024 to<br>Dec 2024 | Reviews<br>Jan 2025 to<br>Dec 2025 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                                                                            | N = 1,154<br>n (%)                 | N = 2,607<br>n (%)                 | N = 2,600<br>n (%)                 | N = 2,810<br>n (%)                 | N = 2,631<br>n (%)                 | N = 2,722<br>n (%)                 | N = 2,575<br>n (%)                 | N = 2,545<br>n (%)                 |
| A – No issues with care identified                                         | 955 (83%)                          | 2,175 (83%)                        | 2,072 (80%)                        | 2,075 (74%)                        | 1,662 (63%)                        | 1,643 (60%)                        | 1,584 (62%)                        | 1,406 (55%)                        |
| B - Care issues that would have made no difference to the outcome          | 141 (12%)                          | 336 (13%)                          | 427 (16%)                          | 550 (20%)                          | 747 (28%)                          | 846 (31%)                          | 754 (29%)                          | 821 (32%)                          |
| C - Care issues which may have made a difference to the outcome            | 23 (2%)                            | 70 (3%)                            | 65 (3%)                            | 126 (5%)                           | 158 (6%)                           | 174 (6%)                           | 169 (7%)                           | 197 (8%)                           |
| D - Care issues which were likely to have made a difference to the outcome | 8 (1%)                             | 22 (1%)                            | 34 (1%)                            | 35 (1%)                            | 47 (2%)                            | 47 (2%)                            | 58 (2%)                            | 96 (4%)                            |
| Unrecorded                                                                 | 27 (2%)                            | 4 (<1%)                            | 2 (<1%)                            | 24 (<1%)                           | 17 (<1%)                           | 12 (<1%)                           | 10 (<1%)                           | 25 (1%)                            |

1. In previous years we have reported the grading of care figures separately for reviews where an external panel member was present. Due to technical reasons, it is not possible to report these figures for reviews conducted in 2025.

**Table 4.6: Grading of bereavement care following neonatal deaths, reviews completed Jan 2018 to Dec 2025<sup>1</sup>**

|                                                                            | Reviews<br>Jan 2018 to<br>Feb 2019 | Reviews<br>Mar 2019 to<br>Feb 2020 | Reviews<br>Mar 2020 to<br>Feb 2021 | Reviews<br>Mar 2021 to<br>Feb 2022 | Reviews<br>Mar 2022 to<br>Feb 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2023 to<br>Dec 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2024 to<br>Dec 2024 | Reviews<br>Jan 2025 to<br>Dec 2025 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                                                                            | N = 346                            | N = 1,086                          | N = 1,381                          | N = 1,389                          | N = 1,480                          | N=1,589                            | N=1,591                            | N=1,565                            |
|                                                                            | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              |
| A – No issues with care identified                                         | 312 (90%)                          | 933 (86%)                          | 1,147 (83%)                        | 1,086 (78%)                        | 1,071 (72%)                        | 1,124 (71%)                        | 1,133 (71%)                        | 992 (63%)                          |
| B - Care issues that would have made no difference to the outcome          | 22 (6%)                            | 94 (9%)                            | 131 (9%)                           | 219 (16%)                          | 296 (20%)                          | 326 (21%)                          | 330 (21%)                          | 319 (20%)                          |
| C - Care issues which may have made a difference to the outcome            | 5 (1%)                             | 28 (3%)                            | 30 (2%)                            | 38 (3%)                            | 47 (3%)                            | 73 (5%)                            | 73 (5%)                            | 90 (6%)                            |
| D - Care issues which were likely to have made a difference to the outcome | 0 (0%)                             | 21 (2%)                            | 59 (4%)                            | 3 (<1%)                            | 15 (1%)                            | 26 (2%)                            | 21 (1%)                            | 23 (2%)                            |
| Unrecorded                                                                 | 7 (2%)                             | 10 (1%)                            | 14 (1%)                            | 43 (3%)                            | 51 (3%)                            | 40 (3%)                            | 34 (2%)                            | 141 (9%)                           |

1. In previous years we have reported the grading of care figures separately for reviews where an external panel member was present. Due to technical reasons, it is not possible to report these figures for reviews conducted in 2025.

## 5. The review team

Table 5.1: Number and percentage of staff recorded as present at the review session for late miscarriages and stillbirths with the largest number of participants, for reviews completed Jan 2018 to Dec 2025

| Number of staff recorded as present | Reviews Jan 2018 to Feb 2019 | Reviews Mar 2019 to Feb 2020 | Reviews Mar 2020 to Feb 2021 | Reviews Mar 2021 to Feb 2022 | Reviews Mar 2022 to Feb 2023 | Reviews Jan 2023 to Dec 2023 | Reviews Jan 2024 to Dec 2024 | Reviews Jan 2025 to Dec 2025 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
|                                     | N = 1,154<br>n (%)           | N = 2,607<br>n (%)           | N = 2,600<br>n (%)           | N = 2,810<br>n (%)           | N = 2,631<br>n (%)           | N = 2,722<br>n (%)           | N = 2,575<br>n (%)           | N = 2,545<br>n (%)           |
| 1                                   | 94 (8%)                      | 224 (9%)                     | 160 (6%)                     | 164 (6%)                     | 86 (3%)                      | 84 (3%)                      | 65 (3%)                      | 60 (2%)                      |
| 2-3                                 | 316 (27%)                    | 605 (23%)                    | 405 (16%)                    | 250(9%)                      | 167 (6%)                     | 153 (6%)                     | 85 (3%)                      | 40 (2%)                      |
| 4-7                                 | 447 (39%)                    | 1,031 (40%)                  | 1,089 (42%)                  | 976 (35%)                    | 915 (35%)                    | 847 (31%)                    | 776 (30%)                    | 605 (24%)                    |
| 8+                                  | 265 (23%)                    | 601 (22%)                    | 874 (34%)                    | 1,358 (48%)                  | 1,382 (53%)                  | 1,571 (58%)                  | 1,595 (62%)                  | 1,796 (71%)                  |
| None recorded                       | 2 (<1%)                      | 147 (6%)                     | 72 (3%)                      | 62 (2%)                      | 81 (3%)                      | 67 (2%)                      | 54 (2%)                      | 44 (2%)                      |
| Median                              | 5                            | 4                            | 6                            | 7                            | 8                            | 8                            | 9                            | 10                           |

**Table 5.2: Number and percentage of staff recorded as present at the review session for neonatal deaths with the largest number of participants, for reviews completed Jan 2018 to Dec 2025**

| Number of staff recorded as present | Reviews Jan 2019 to Feb 2019 | Reviews Mar 2019 to Feb 2020 | Reviews Mar 2020 to Feb 2021 | Reviews Mar 2021 to Feb 2022 | Reviews Mar 2022 to Feb 2023 | Reviews Jan 2023 to Dec 2023 | Reviews Jan 2024 to Dec 2024 | Reviews Jan 2025 to Dec 2025 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
|                                     | N = 346<br>n (%)             | N = 1,086<br>n (%)           | N = 1,381<br>n (%)           | N = 1,389<br>n (%)           | N = 1,480<br>n (%)           | N = 1,589<br>n (%)           | N = 1,591<br>n (%)           | N = 1,565<br>n (%)           |
| 1                                   | 23 (7%)                      | 89 (8%)                      | 110 (8%)                     | 96 (7%)                      | 80 (5%)                      | 67 (4%)                      | 61 (4%)                      | 62 (4%)                      |
| 2-3                                 | 87 (25%)                     | 188 (17%)                    | 161 (11%)                    | 101 (8%)                     | 84 (6%)                      | 79 (5%)                      | 86 (5%)                      | 67 (4%)                      |
| 4-7                                 | 129 (37%)                    | 434 (40%)                    | 448 (32%)                    | 326 (23%)                    | 268 (18%)                    | 275 (17%)                    | 205 (13%)                    | 126 (8%)                     |
| 8+                                  | 107 (31%)                    | 323 (30%)                    | 627 (45%)                    | 832 (60%)                    | 1,005 (68%)                  | 1,130 (71%)                  | 1,212 (76%)                  | 1,238 (79%)                  |
| None recorded                       | 0 (0%)                       | 52 (5%)                      | 35 (3%)                      | 34 (2%)                      | 43 (3%)                      | 38 (2%)                      | 27 (2%)                      | 72 (5%)                      |
| Median                              | 6                            | 5                            | 7                            | 9                            | 10                           | 11                           | 12                           | 13                           |

**Table 5.3: Number and percentage of reviews involving each type of professional, for late miscarriages and stillbirths, for reviews completed Jan 2018 to Dec 2025**

| Professional role                           | Reviews<br>Jan 2018 to<br>Feb 2019 | Reviews<br>Mar 2019 to<br>Feb 2020 | Reviews<br>Mar 2020 to<br>Feb 2021 | Reviews<br>Mar 2021 to<br>Feb 2022 | Reviews<br>Mar 2022 to<br>Feb 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2023 to<br>Dec 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2024 to<br>Dec 2024 | Reviews<br>Jan 2025 to<br>Dec 2025 |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                                             | N = 1,154                          | N = 2,607                          | N = 2,600                          | N = 2,810                          | N = 2,631                          | N = 2,722                          | N = 2,575                          | N = 2,575                          |
|                                             | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              |
| External panel member                       | 105 (9%)                           | 496 (19%)                          | 539 (21%)                          | 938 (33%)                          | 1,180 (45%)                        | 1,362 (50%)                        | 1,325 (51%)                        | -- <sup>1</sup>                    |
| Midwife                                     | 972 (84%)                          | 2,174 (83%)                        | 2,295 (88%)                        | 2,658 (95%)                        | 2,474 (94%)                        | 2,606 (96%)                        | 2,477 (96%)                        | 2,469 (97%)                        |
| Neonatologist/ paediatrician                | 140 (12%)                          | 468 (18%)                          | 592 (23%)                          | 795 (28%)                          | 733 (28%)                          | 680 (25%)                          | 608 (24%)                          | 651 (26%)                          |
| Obstetrician                                | 893 (77%)                          | 2,050 (79%)                        | 2,269 (87%)                        | 2,540 (90%)                        | 2,435 (93%)                        | 2,526 (93%)                        | 2,420 (94%)                        | 2,421 (95%)                        |
| Bereavement team member                     | 495(43%)                           | 1,444 (55%)                        | 1,353 (52%)                        | 1,602 (57%)                        | 1,548 (59%)                        | 1,691 (62%)                        | 1,775 (69%)                        | 1,836 (72%)                        |
| Risk manager/ governance team member        | 749 (65%)                          | 2,452 (94%)                        | 1,889 (73%)                        | 2,060 (73%)                        | 1,940 (74%)                        | 2,116 (78%)                        | 2,143 (83%)                        | 2,140 (84%)                        |
| PMRT/maternity safety champion <sup>2</sup> | 125 (11%)                          | 454 (18%)                          | 410 (18%)                          | 581 (24%)                          | 549 (25%)                          | 562 (15%)                          | 528 (14%)                          | 524 (26%)                          |
| Neonatal nurse                              | 56 (5%)                            | 226 (9%)                           | 209 (8%)                           | 376 (13%)                          | 361 (14%)                          | 394 (14%)                          | 421 (16%)                          | 505 (20%)                          |
| Management team member                      | 288 (25%)                          | 1,130 (43%)                        | 967 (37%)                          | 1,214 (43%)                        | 1,141 (43%)                        | 1,290 (47%)                        | 1,287 (50%)                        | 1,339 (53%)                        |
| MNVP Lead <sup>2,3</sup>                    | --                                 | --                                 | --                                 | --                                 | --                                 | --                                 | --                                 | 243 (14%)                          |
| Administrative support staff                | 122 (11%)                          | 448 (17%)                          | 545 (21%)                          | 760 (27%)                          | 847 (32%)                          | 902 (33%)                          | 1022 (40%)                         | 907 (36%)                          |
| Pathologist                                 | 26 (2%)                            | 120 (5%)                           | 152 (6%)                           | 228 (8%)                           | 185 (7%)                           | 178 (7%)                           | 239 (9%)                           | 207 (8%)                           |
| Anaesthetist                                | 39 (3%)                            | 52 (2%)                            | 49 (2%)                            | 89 (3%)                            | 110 (4%)                           | 96 (4%)                            | 72 (3%)                            | 82 (3%)                            |
| Other                                       | 223 (19%)                          | 764 (29%)                          | 623 (24%)                          | 803 (29%)                          | 904 (34%)                          | 937 (34%)                          | 1001 (39%)                         | 1,120 (44%)                        |
| Unknown (in addition to other)              | 938 (81%)                          | 406 (16%)                          | 357 (14%)                          | 555 (20%)                          | 590 (22%)                          | 670 (25%)                          | 1056 (41%)                         | 766 (30%)                          |

1. Due to technical reasons, we are unable to report this figure for 2025 reviews

2. England only; the appropriate England denominators were used to calculate the percentages

3. It was possible to specify MNVP leads as participants described by their specific role for reviews starting from December 2024

**Table 5.4: Number and percentage of reviews involving each type of professional, for reviews of neonatal deaths, for reviews completed Jan 2018 to Dec 2025**

| Professional role                           | Reviews<br>Jan 2018 to<br>Feb 2019 | Reviews<br>Mar 2019 to<br>Feb 2020 | Reviews<br>Mar 2020 to<br>Feb 2021 | Reviews<br>Mar 2021 to<br>Feb 2022 | Reviews<br>Mar 2022 to<br>Feb 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2023 to<br>Dec 2023 | Reviews<br>Jan 2024 to<br>Dec 2024 | Reviews<br>Jan 2025 to<br>Dec 2025 |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                                             | N = 346                            | N = 1,086                          | N = 1,381                          | N = 1,389                          | N = 1,480                          | N = 1,589                          | N = 1,591                          | N = 1,565                          |
|                                             | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              | n (%)                              |
| External panel member                       | 29 (8%)                            | 206 (19%)                          | 304 (22%)                          | 478 (34%)                          | 667 (45%)                          | 836 (53%)                          | 902 (57%)                          | -- <sup>1</sup>                    |
| Midwife                                     | 267 (77%)                          | 826 (76%)                          | 1,128 (82%)                        | 1,198 (86%)                        | 1,347 (91%)                        | 1,503 (95%)                        | 1,517 (95%)                        | 1,439 (92%)                        |
| Neonatologist/ paediatrician                | 204 (59%)                          | 766 (71%)                          | 1,112 (81%)                        | 1,148 (83%)                        | 1,247 (84%)                        | 1,332 (84%)                        | 1,391 (87%)                        | 1,348 (86%)                        |
| Obstetrician                                | 253 (73%)                          | 778 (72%)                          | 1,024 (74%)                        | 1,153 (83%)                        | 1,261 (85%)                        | 1,410 (89%)                        | 1,420 (89%)                        | 1,351 (86%)                        |
| Bereavement team member                     | 145 (42%)                          | 526 (48%)                          | 703 (51%)                          | 828 (60%)                          | 879 (59%)                          | 1,062 (67%)                        | 1,127 (71%)                        | 1,121 (72%)                        |
| Risk manager/ governance team member        | 206 (60%)                          | 918 (85%)                          | 920 (67%)                          | 1,003 (72%)                        | 1,121 (76%)                        | 1,245 (78%)                        | 1,345 (85%)                        | 1,282 (82%)                        |
| PMRT/maternity safety champion <sup>2</sup> | 24 (7%)                            | 139 (14%)                          | 269 (21%)                          | 300 (23%)                          | 318 (24%)                          | 337 (23%)                          | 366 (25%)                          | 372 (26%)                          |
| Neonatal nurse                              | 83 (24%)                           | 779 (71%)                          | 632 (46%)                          | 740 (53%)                          | 905 (61%)                          | 879 (55%)                          | 998 (63%)                          | 1,091 (70%)                        |
| Management team member                      | 65 (19%)                           | 366 (34%)                          | 404 (29%)                          | 505 (36%)                          | 578 (39%)                          | 651 (41%)                          | 693 (44%)                          | 742 (47%)                          |
| MNVP Lead <sup>2,3</sup>                    | --                                 | --                                 | --                                 | --                                 | --                                 | --                                 | --                                 | 103 (11%)                          |
| Administrative support staff                | 48 (14%)                           | 230 (21%)                          | 320 (23%)                          | 502 (36%)                          | 592 (40%)                          | 657 (41%)                          | 635 (40%)                          | 551 (35%)                          |
| Pathologist                                 | 4 (1%)                             | 16 (1%)                            | 47 (3%)                            | 94 (7%)                            | 94 (6%)                            | 106 (7%)                           | 101 (6%)                           | 76 (5%)                            |
| Anaesthetist                                | 4 (1%)                             | 19 (2%)                            | 33 (3%)                            | 57 (4%)                            | 71 (5%)                            | 62 (4%)                            | 55 (3%)                            | 56 (4%)                            |
| Other                                       | 67 (19%)                           | 558 (51%)                          | 466 (34%)                          | 564 (41%)                          | 694 (47%)                          | 759 (48%)                          | 817 (51%)                          | 879 (56%)                          |
| Unknown (in addition to other)              | 297 (86%)                          | 252 (23%)                          | 305 (22%)                          | 415 (30%)                          | 474 (32%)                          | 575 (36%)                          | 880 (55%)                          | 639 (41%)                          |

1. Due to technical reasons, we are unable to report this figure for 2025 reviews

2. England only; the appropriate England denominators were used to calculate the percentages

3. It was possible to specify MNVP leads as participants described by their specific role for reviews starting from December 2024



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