

# Maternity incentive scheme reverification process

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Self-assessments undertaken by Trusts as part of the Maternity Incentive Scheme (MIS) are subject to verification against three external sources of validation and sense-checked with the Care Quality Commission (CQC). If any concerns or anomalies are identified, these are investigated and, if required, further evidence is requested from the Trust.

The verification process works as follows:

1. Once Trust submissions are received by NHS Resolution, they are reviewed to ensure signatures (sign-off) by the Trust chief executive on behalf of the board declaring that:
  - The Trust Board are satisfied that the evidence provided to demonstrate achievement of the ten maternity safety actions meets the required safety actions' sub-requirements as set out in the safety actions and technical guidance document.
  - The content of the Board declaration form has been discussed with the commissioner(s) of the Trust's maternity services.
  - There are no reports that relate to the provision of maternity services that may subsequently provide conflicting information to your declaration (e.g. CQC inspection report, Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch (HSIB) investigation reports etc.) – please refer to MIS guidance for relevant timeframes. All such reports should be brought to the MIS team's attention before the scheme submission deadline.
2. Trust submissions will be subject to a range of external verification points, these include cross checking with: MBRRACE-UK data (safety action 1), NHS Digital regarding submission to the Maternity Services Data Set (safety action 2), and against the National Neonatal Research Database (NNRD) and HSIB for the number of qualifying incidents reportable to the Early Notification scheme (safety action 10).
3. Trust submissions will also be sense-checked with the CQC, and for any CQC visits undertaken within the time period, the CQC will cross-reference to the maternity incentive scheme via the key lines of enquiry.
4. Trust regional chief midwives will provide support and oversight to Trusts when receiving Trusts' updates at Local Maternity System (LMS) and regional meetings, focusing on themes highlighted when Trusts have incorrectly declared MIS compliance in year.
5. The final results are confirmed and ratified by NHS Resolution's Approvals Committee which includes a non-executive member of the Board.

6. NHS Resolution will continue to investigate any concerns raised about a Trust's performance either during or after the confirmation of the maternity incentive scheme results. Trusts will be asked to re-review the maternity incentive scheme submission, and reconfirm if they deem themselves to be compliant. If a Trust re-confirm compliance with all of the ten safety actions then the evidence submitted to Trust Board will be requested by NHS Resolution for review. If the Trust is found to be non-compliant (self-declared non-compliant or declared non-compliant by NHS Resolution), it will be required to repay any funding received and asked to review previous years' MIS submissions.
7. If subsequent verification checks demonstrate that an incorrect declaration has been made, this may indicate a failure in governance which we may escalate to the appropriate arm's length body/NHS system leader. We confirm that we will be escalating this matter to the Department of Health and Social Care, CQC and NHS England/Improvement including the Chief Midwifery Officer's team and NHS E&I Regional Director.
8. NHS Resolution will publish information and the outcomes of the maternity incentive scheme verification process, Trust by Trust, for each year of the scheme (updated on the NHS Resolution Website).
9. This process applies ongoing to all Trusts involved in the scheme
10. Please refer to the re-verification spreadsheet for details of the Trusts who have been required to revise their self-declaration  
<https://resolution.nhs.uk/services/claims-management/clinical-schemes/clinical-negligence-scheme-for-trusts/maternity-incentive-scheme/>
11. Full details of year three of the scheme, including the conditions, ten safety actions, supporting technical guidance, frequently asked questions is available here  
<https://resolution.nhs.uk/services/claims-management/clinical-schemes/clinical-negligence-scheme-for-trusts/maternity-incentive-scheme/>