[TITLE] [INITIAL] [LAST NAME]

[ADDRESS 1]

[ADDRESS 2]

[ADDRESS 3]

[ADDRESS 4]

[POSTCODE]

**Survey number:** **[PATIENT RECORD NUMBER]**

 **Online password:** **[PASSWORD]**

[MAILING DATE]

Dear [TITLE] [FIRST NAME] [LAST NAME],

**Your chance to help the NHS**

I am writing to invite you to take part in the NHS Maternity Survey about your **recent maternity experience** **at** [TRUST NAME].

**Improving maternity care at your trust**

The survey asks questions about your recent experience of giving birth and the care you received during your pregnancy, labour and birth, and after your birth. Taking part is voluntary but your views are really important to us. What you tell us will help us understand what went well with your maternity care and what we need to do better.

Your participation this year will help us monitor the quality of our services and suggest further areas for improvement.

<IN-HOUSE TRUSTS REMOVE THIS PARAGRAPH> This survey is being carried out by [CONTRACTOR] on behalf of the Care Quality Commission in England, with support from this Trust.

<CONTRACTORS REMOVE THIS PARAGRAPH> This survey is being carried out by [IN-HOUSE TRUST NAME] on behalf of the Care Quality Commission in England.

**Taking part will only take 15 minutes**

**You can complete the survey online** – this can be done on a computer, tablet or mobile phone. To take part online, please type the link below into the address bar at the top of your internet browser and then enter the survey number and online password to start the survey. Alternatively, you can scan the QR code to complete the survey online:

**[INSERT UNIQUE QR CODE HERE]**

**[INSERT ONLINE SURVEY LINK]**

**Survey number:**

**[PRN]**

**Online password:**

**[PASSWORD]**

**Your information will be kept confidential**

Your responses are not shared with our staff and will be kept confidential by the research team. There is more information about how your answers will be used over the page.

If you have any questions, need help filling in the questionnaire or do not want to take part,please send an email to: **[HELPLINE EMAIL]** or call [CONTRACTOR/IN-HOUSE TRUST NAME] on **[Freephone] [HELPLINE NUMBER]** [HELPLINE OPENING DAYS/TIMES].

Thank you very much for your time to help us improve maternity care.

Yours sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE]
[SIGNATORY NAME],
[POSITION AT THE TRUST], [TRUST NAME]

**Why are you carrying out this survey and why have I been invited?**

The NHS Maternity Survey will help this trust improve maternity services so they better meet the needs of mothers and babies. The findings from this study will be published at [**www.cqc.org.uk/surveys**](http://www.cqc.org.uk/surveys).

Your name has been chosen as you gave birth at the trust named in this letter in January or February. Your personal data are held in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018. [TRUST NAME] is the data controller for this study and our privacy notice explains your rights about how your information is used, and how you can get in touch. You can see the notices at [NHS TRUST PRIVACY STATEMENT ON WEBSITE] and [**www.cqc.org.uk/about-us/our-policies/privacy-statement**](https://www.cqc.org.uk/about-us/our-policies/privacy-statement). For more information go to[**www.nhssurveys.org/received-a-questionnaire/**](http://www.nhssurveys.org/received-a-questionnaire/).

<IN-HOUSE TRUSTS REMOVE THIS PARAGRAPH> Your contact details have been passed to [CONTRACTOR], only so that they can invite you to take part in this survey. [CONTRACTOR] will **keep your contact details confidential** and destroy them once the survey is over.

**What happens to my answers?**

Your answers are put together with the answers of other people to provide results for your trust and will be kept confidential by researchers at [CONTRACTOR/IN-HOUSE TRUST NAME] and the Survey Coordination Centre (SCC) (who coordinate the survey on behalf of the Care Quality Commission). None of the staff who cared for you will know who has taken part. Neither your name nor full address will be linked to your responses, and nobody will be able to identify you in any results that are published. Researchers analysing the results of the survey will use your postcode to undertake geographical analysis of overall results. If comments on the questionnaire were to suggest that you or someone else is at serious risk of harm, your details would be provided to the appropriate authority to investigate, as part of our safeguarding duty.

**What is the survey number on the front of this letter used for?**

The survey number is used to identify who has responded to the survey (so that reminders are only sent to people who haven’t responded) and to link responses to trusts. The survey number is not linked to your NHS number.

**Do I have to take part in the survey?**

Taking part in the survey is voluntary. If you choose not to take part, it will not affect your care and you don’t need to give us a reason. If you do not wish to take part, please call **Freephone [helpline number]** or **email [helpline email address]**.

If you would like someone to help you complete the survey it’s fine to ask a friend or relative to help, but please make sure the answers are only about your experiences. If you would like a paper version of the questionnaire, please call **Freephone [helpline number]** or **email [helpline email address]**.

**Who do I contact if I have a query or complaint about the survey?**

If you would like to find out more about the survey, how your information will be used or to make a complaint, please call **Freephone [helpline number]** or **email [helpline email address]**.