

Maternity Capital Funds



maternal deaths and brain injuries occurring during or soon after birth by 2030.

Miss Sandra Bynoe, Consultant Obstetrician/ Gynaecologist and simulation lead for obstetrics at Darent Valley Hospital said: *"We are delighted to be able to purchase this new equipment. The Desperate Debra simulator (shown in the photograph) has been designed to facilitate the training and implementation of correct clinical procedures when confronted with impaction of the baby's head at the time of a late stage caesarean section, a serious and potentially life threatening event. The other item purchased, a Prompt flex trainer manikin will support student midwives, qualified midwives, medical students and doctors to develop competencies and skills in various vaginal births i.e. normal vaginal delivery, breech delivery and assisted deliveries such as forceps and ventouse deliveries. This training and practice will improve clinical practice and promote the safe birth for both mother and baby."*

Darent Valley Hospital has been awarded £12,000 as part of an initiative to make the NHS one of the safest places in the world to have a baby. This award will be spent on the purchase of two simulators (Desperate Debra and Prompt flex simulators) to improve our pre-existing multidisciplinary obstetrics course.

The money is part of a £2 million fund which the Department of Health has awarded to trusts across the country, from Gateshead to Somerset, as part of their commitment to halve the number of stillbirths, neo natal deaths,

Health Minister Ben Gummer said: *"It is my ambition to ensure the NHS is one of the safest places in the world to have a baby. Our staff do an excellent job providing high quality care but it is vital that they have the right equipment to continue to do this, that's why I am really pleased that so many trusts will benefit from this fund. I am determined to ensure we do everything we can to reduce the number of families going through the heartache of stillbirth, neo natal death, maternal death and brain injury occurring during or soon after birth."*