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### **Maternal Link chosen to join prestigious DH Pathfinder Scheme**

Marina Stockwell, Director of Maternal Link, today welcomed the Department of Health's decision to accept Maternal Link onto its pathfinder programme:

Marina Stockwell said:

"Maternal Link aims to increase the quality of midwifery care offered to women, increase the numbers of working midwives by providing an environment in which they want to work and reduce the costs of maternity care to the NHS by reducing intervention rates."

"The Pathfinder Scheme is an exciting opportunity for Maternal Link to develop and I look forward to working with the Department of Health to provide quality services which are value for money"

Further Comment: Marina Stockwell, 0870 4460 1564

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#### **Notes to Editors:**

1. The Department of Health Social Enterprise Unit today announced the successful applicants for the Pathfinders Scheme who will be eligible to apply for financial support from the Unit's Social Enterprise Fund to help with set up costs and will have access to wider support, for example legal or business advice, and training.

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/14/23/41/04142341.pdf>

2. Maternal Link was established in 2004 to promote midwifery led, community centred care emphasising the importance of continuity of carer. Through the pathfinder scheme Maternal Link aims to broker pilot sites to develop the business and then role the service out nationally.

<http://www.maternallink.com>

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