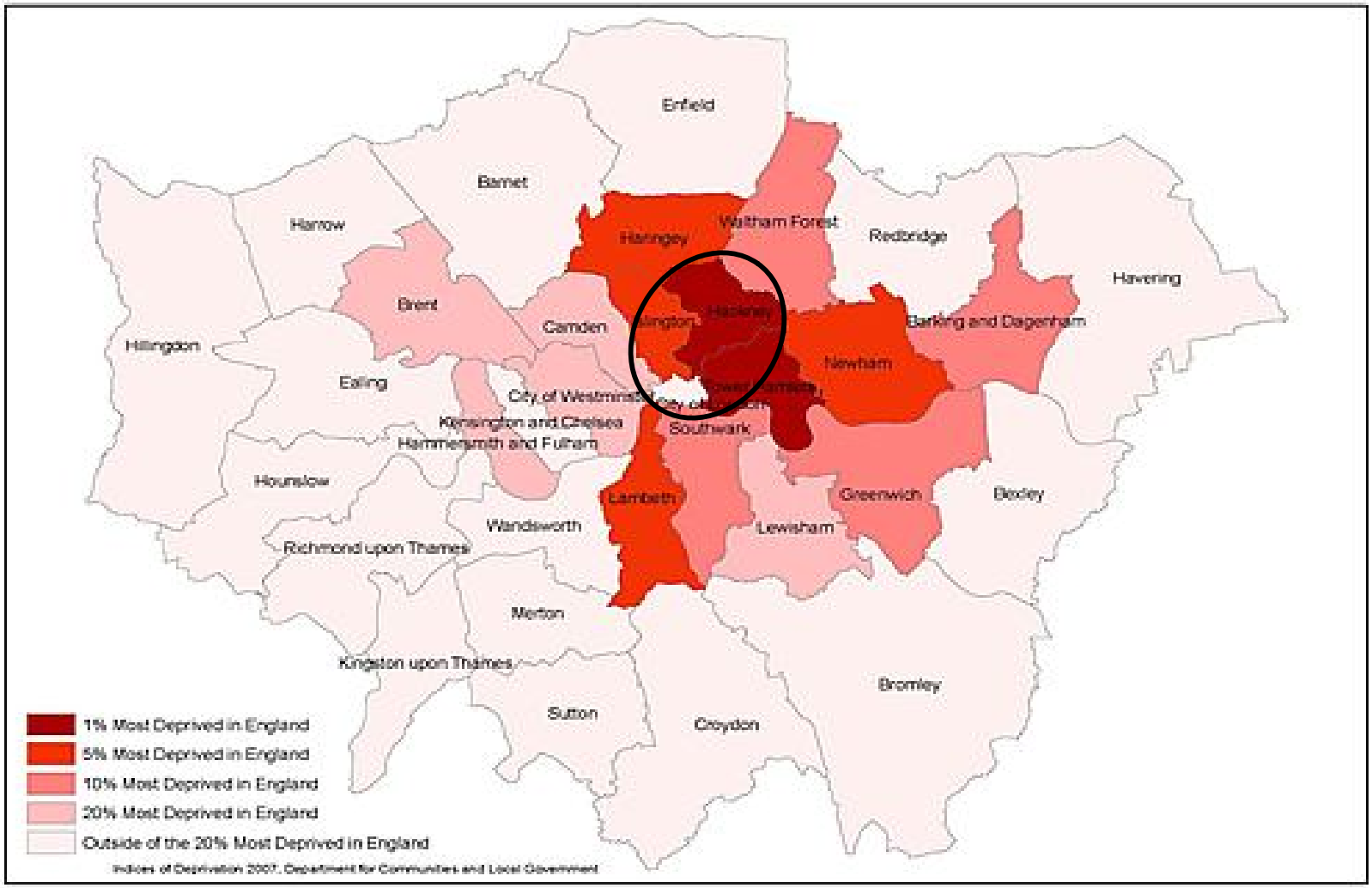
Homerton University Hospital NHS
NHS Foundation Trust

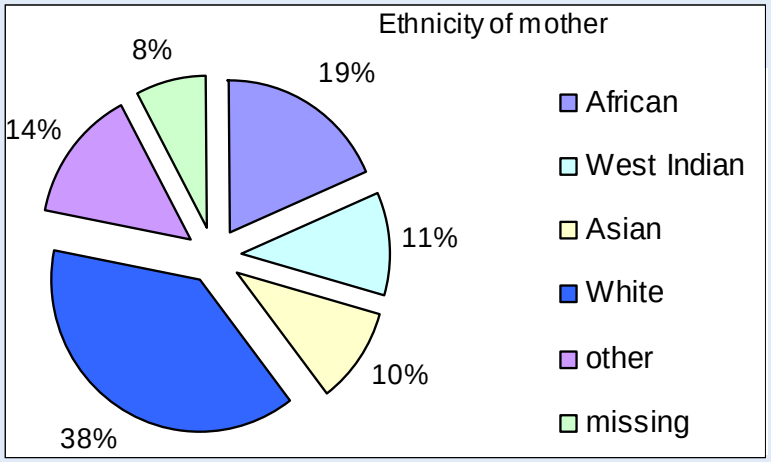
Supporting Vulnerable Women

RCM Conference 2010

Philippa Cox – Consultant Midwife / SoM
Miriam Gallacher – Midwife

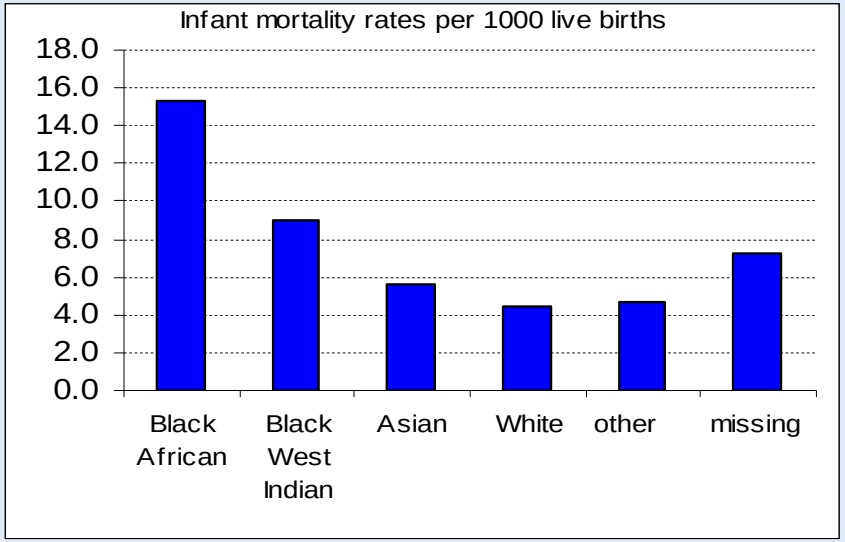

Enfield
Barnet
Harrow
Haringey
Waltham Forest
Redbridge
Havering
Brent
Camden
Islington
Hackney
Barking and Dagenham
Hillingdon
Newham
Ealing
City of Westminster
Kensington and Chelsea
Hammersmith and Fulham
Southwark
Hounslow
Lambeth
Greenwich
Bexley
Wandsworth
Lewisham
Richmond upon Thames
Merton
Kingston upon Thames
Bromley
Sutton
Croydon
1% Most Deprived in England
5% Most Deprived in England
10% Most Deprived in England
20% Most Deprived in England
Outside of the 20% Most Deprived in England
Indices of Deprivation 2007, Department for Communities and Local Government

Fetal & Infant Death in East London (FIDEL study) 2005



Ethnicity of mothers

in City and Hackney 1999-2001



Number of infant deaths per 1000 live births in each group

Homerton University Hospital NHS
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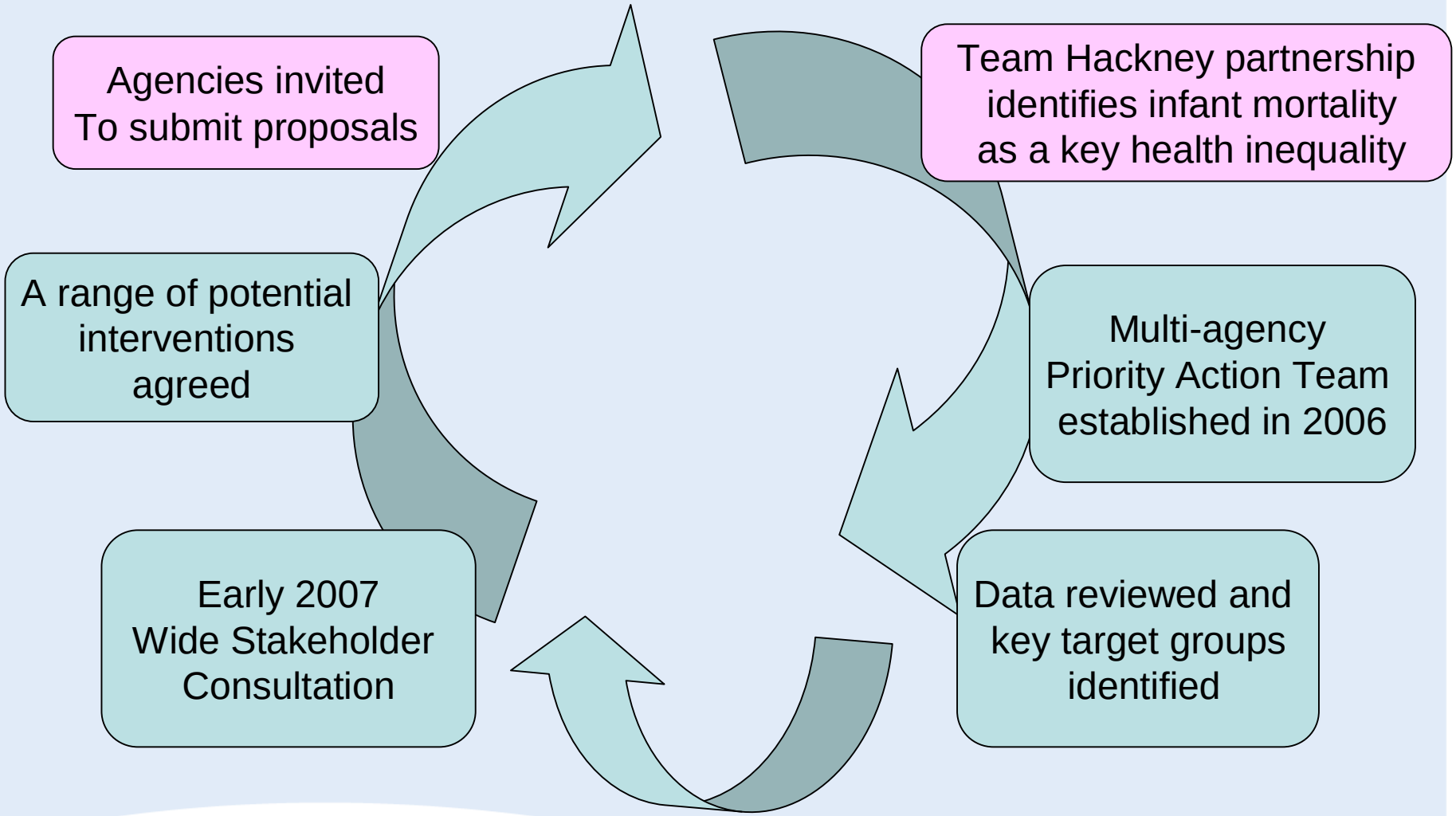


Interventions that will

- Enable access to maternity care
- Improve availability of neighbourhood care and continuity of care
- Enable women and their families to improve their health and well-being

The full range of interventions are:

- Training local women to be “community messengers” offering simple advice on how to access care and keep well in pregnancy.
- Bi-lingual maternity support workers working in the community
- A midwifery group practice in Shoreditch, giving women one to one care throughout their pregnancy and into the postnatal period.
- Community Maternity Centre
- Training community volunteers to support women in labour.
- Maternity helpline where callers speak with an experienced Hackney midwife.
- Additional midwives to work in local Children’s Centres (target areas).
- Working with pregnant women to ensure that they and their families eat healthily.
- Undertaking three pieces of research to identify the reasons why some babies are born too early.

Improving information about maternity services and easing access to care

The Maternity Helpline

- Commenced September 2007
- Is based at Homerton University Hospital Foundation Trust (Hackney)
- Open 7 days a week, 365 days a year, 10am-6pm.
- Staff by permanent, experienced midwives.
- Staff training in telephone skills

Some issues dealt with:

- Teenagers calling
- Late booking
- Depression, suicidal thoughts
- Domestic abuse
- Child protection issues
- Substance misuse

Women have said:

"An absolutely wonderful service – please extend it"

"I didn't expect anyone to answer!"

"I have told everyone about you"

"The midwives were kind, considerate and knowledgeable, thank you"

The Future

- Independent evaluation undertaken - successful
- All interventions have been mainstream into Maternity/PCT service's
- Evidence that interventions are having an effect on outcomes
- NICE guidance
- Work is being recognised and implemented elsewhere

Further Information

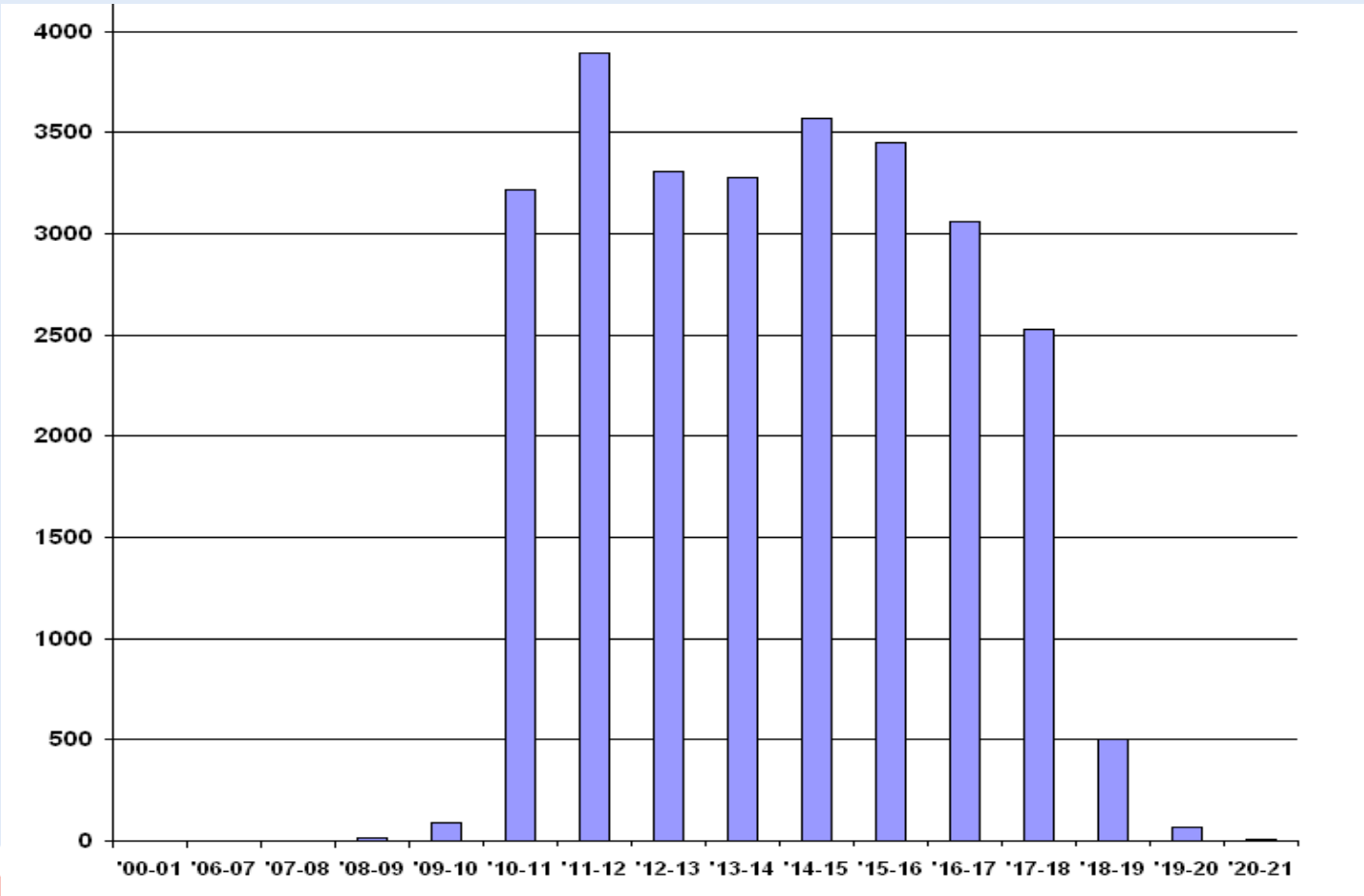
Contact by email:

philippa.cox@homerton.nhs.uk

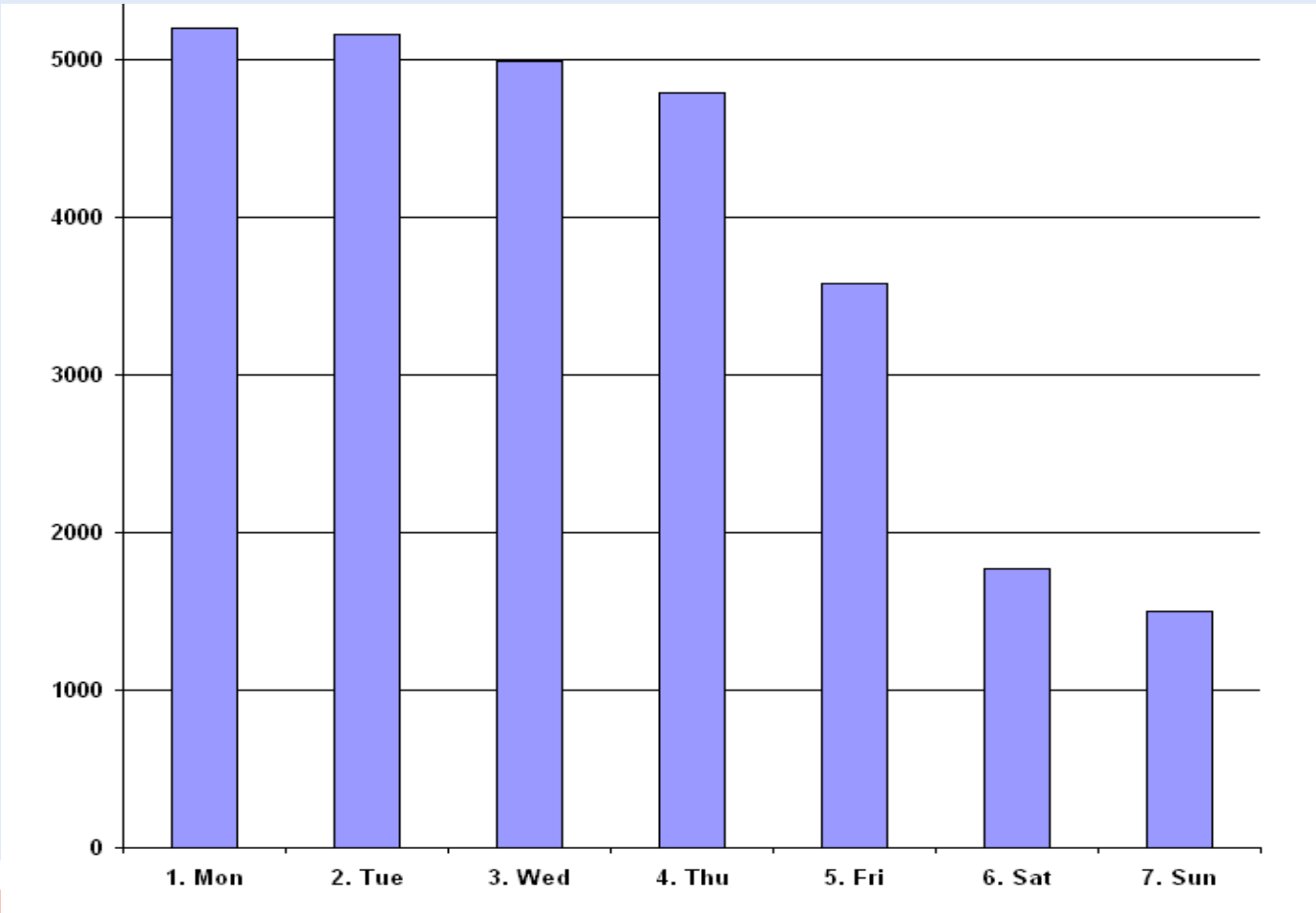
Download interim findings report:

http://www.homerton.nhs.uk/our-services/maternity-services/

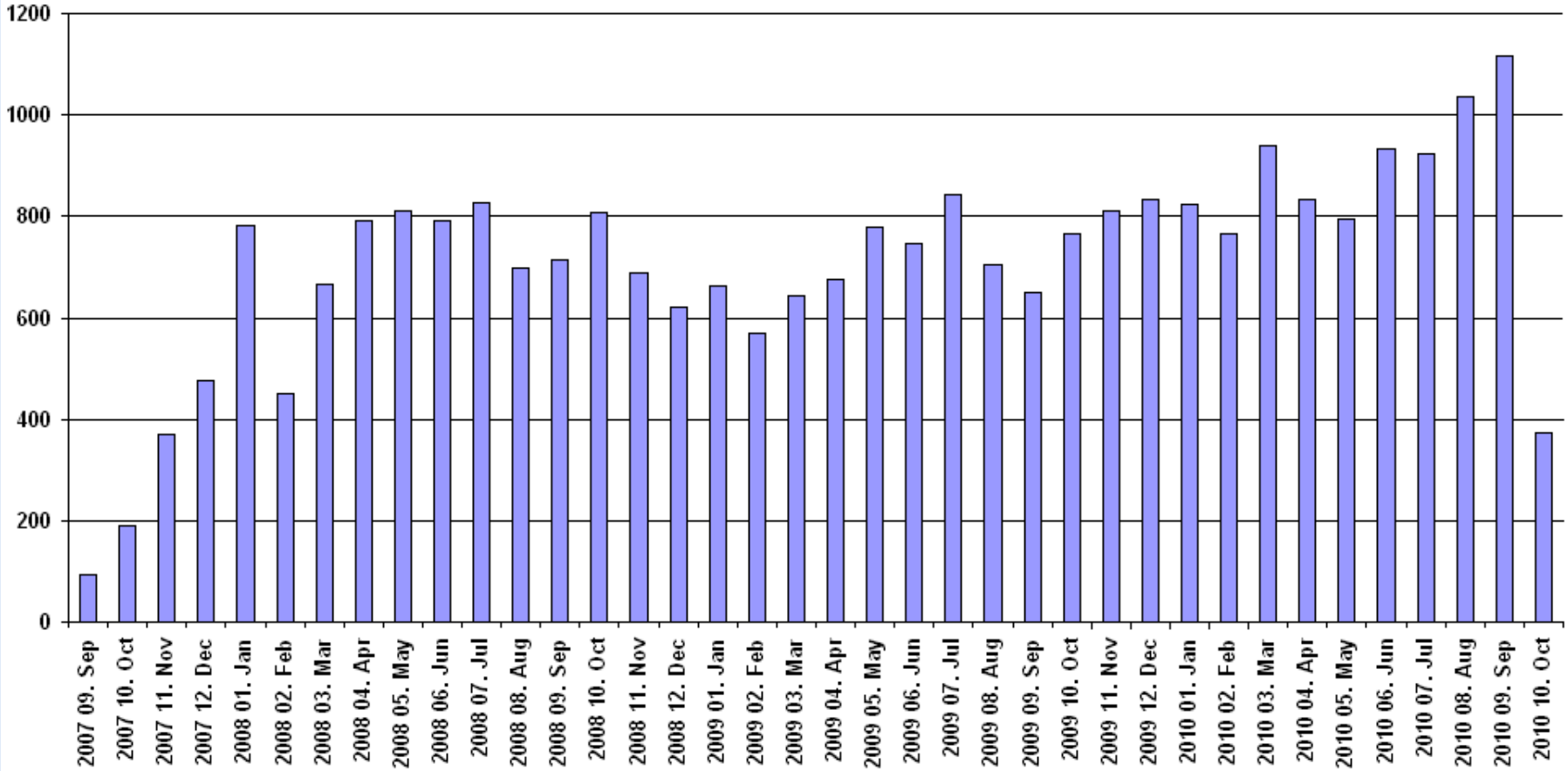
Peak Call Times



Peak Call Days



Peak Call Months



Disposition Types

Disposition Type	Number	%
Advised by Helpline Midwife	14921	50.7%
Advised TCI	2311	7.9%
Advised to see GP/Midwife	184	0.6%
Breastfeeding Advice	929	3.2%
CMW Results	6002	20.4%
Follow-up Action	1297	4.4%
GP results or advice	158	0.5%
Late booking - over 12 weeks	56	0.2%
Late booking - over 20 weeks	53	0.2%
Missed visit	114	0.4%
Other	1405	4.8%
Parentcraft	19	0.1%
Referred to GP	869	3.0%
Referred to Midwife	350	1.2%
Referred/Signposted	697	2.4%
Self-referral	65	0.2%
TOTAL	**29430**	