

Core Document

Midwife Leaders' Executive Sponsorship Programme – Information for Sponsees

Revised 2025

Introduction

The Midwife Leaders' Executive Sponsorship Programme is an exciting opportunity designed to support emerging and established midwife leaders by connecting them with executive sponsors. This programme aims to support your growth as a midwifery leader, strengthen midwifery networks, and enhance professional development.

Please ensure you have read the Midwife Leaders Executive Sponsorship programme brochure in full – available [here](#).

Programme Overview

This is a 24-month sponsorship programme where selected sponsees are paired with executive sponsors. The programme aims to support your career advancement, leadership development, and networking opportunities through the targeted guidance of your executive sponsor.

Who Can Apply?

Applicants must:

- Be a qualified midwife and a member of the Midwifery Association (MA)
- Have discussed their application with your MA and have their support.
 - Midwives will be expected to upload a letter of support from their MA.
- Demonstrate leadership potential and already have experience of mid-career midwifery leadership. This could be in practice, education, research, policy, ministry, or association level.
- Demonstrate commitment to continued professional development, for example, provide evidence of undertaking additional courses, further education and or the attendance at conferences?
- Be committed to advancing midwifery leadership and advocating for midwifery services.
- Have the ability to commit to a two-year engagement with their assigned sponsor.

Benefits of Participation

- **Mentorship & Guidance:** Receive support and advice from experienced executive leaders.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Gain access to high-level professional networks.
- **Skill Development:** Enhance leadership, advocacy, communication, and strategic thinking skills through targeted support

Programme Steps

- **Selection & Matching:** Applicants will be selected based on leadership potential and matched with a suitable executive sponsor.
- **Goal Setting & Development Planning:** Participants and sponsors will collaboratively set leadership goals and create a professional development plan.
- **Regular Meetings & Check-ins:** Bi-monthly meetings with sponsors
- **ICM Midwife Advisor point of contact:** you will be assigned an ICM Midwife Advisor to be your point of contact to provide you further support if needed.
- **Evaluation & Feedback:** Mid and end-point evaluations to track progress and the personal impact of the programme.

Application Process

- **Step 1:** Discuss your proposed application with your Midwifery Association and ensure their support.
- **Step 2:** Complete the online application form which will include your current role, leadership experience and any previous professional development.
- **Step 3:** If you have identified a sponsor who you wish to support you, you must discuss this with them in advance. If they agree to act as your sponsor, they must apply via the Executive Sponsor nomination form and provide your details and confirm they have agreed this with you. This does not confirm your inclusion in the programme but your preferences will be considered during the review process.
- **Step 4:** The ICM team will review applications. Selected applicants will be paired with an appropriate executive sponsor and invited to a launch event in March .

You can apply through this link: <https://zfrmz.eu/LinVQpzRar7Qu5XH1QRq>

Key Dates

- **Application Deadline:** 19 January 2026
- **Programme Commencement:** 6 March 2026
- **Programme Conclusion:** March 2028