



## **Mothers at Risk or Suffering Post Natal Depression Shouldn't Be Put at Risk**

Commenting in support of the work of the Joanne(Joe) Bingley Memorial Foundation following the inquest in Joanne Bingley's death Family Action Chief Executive Helen Dent said:

"The tragic case of Joe Bingley shows the need for more joined up thinking and support for mothers at risk of post natal depression. We know from our experience of working with mothers suffering from post natal depression how important good services are which engage with mothers and their babies together with their partners and other children so that they can all work together to overcome this issue. The NHS needs a step change in the way it recognises and supports post natal depression if we are to try and ensure that families like the Bingley's aren't failed by health services in future.

Our own Perinatal Support Service works with pregnant women and mothers with children up to the age of one at risk of, or with, post natal depression to help them improve bonding with their babies and manage and improve their mental health. Through volunteer befrienders families are supported in their own homes to grow safer and stronger. With data from the Patient's Association showing that local health provision does not have a plan for dealing with post natal depression we need to see real leadership to improve the health of women and the life chances of children across England."

### **Ends**

Notes to Editors

For further information about Family Action's Perinatal Project you can visit our website at [www.family-action.org.uk/perinatal](http://www.family-action.org.uk/perinatal) or contact Anthony McCaul, Senior Media and Campaigns Officer on 0207 241 7632 or email [anthony.mccaul@family-action.org.uk](mailto:anthony.mccaul@family-action.org.uk)

### **About Family Action**

Family Action has been a leading provider and services to disadvantaged and socially isolated families since 1869. We work with over 45,000 children and families a year by providing practical, emotional and financial support through over 100 services based in communities across England. A further 150,000 people benefit from our educational grants and information service.