



## Dear friends,

We're proud to announce the launch of the [Birth Companions Institute](#) today, a **new centre of expertise** dedicated to achieving **better care, equity and justice** for pregnant women, mothers, and their babies.

For 30 years we've supported women and babies facing severe disadvantage, and worked to change the structures, systems and services that shape their lives.

Now, with the Birth Companions Institute, we are taking that work to the next level through research, public affairs, policy, campaigns, consultancy, the law and the media.

The Institute will focus on building the evidence base, influencing policy, and developing practical solutions to tackle inequity in the first 1001 days of life, so that mothers thrive, and their children have the best possible start in life.



## Launch event

We will be formally launching the Institute today, at a **special event hosted by [Impact on Urban Health](#)**.

**A huge thank you to our speakers:** Maya Sikand KC, Doughty Street Chambers; Karen Broadhurst, Lancaster University; Hannah Rayment-Jones, Kings College London; and Ivié Itoje, Wen (Women's Environmental Network); and to Impact on Urban Health.

## Read

### Our Birth Companions Institute blog

We've posted a blog reflecting on the new Birth Companions Institute, and what this means for care, equity and justice for pregnant women, mothers and babies.

[View more](#)

## Explore

### Our new website

Explore our brand new website, and find out more about the work of the Birth Companions Institute.

[View more](#)



## Meet our new Ambassador

**We are proud to welcome Dr Annabel Sowemimo as Birth Companions' new ambassador.**

Annabel is a doctor, academic, activist and writer whose work focuses on tackling health inequalities, racial disparities, and improving access to care for marginalised groups.

Her commitment to equity in healthcare and support for women facing the toughest challenges makes her an inspiring partner for Birth Companions. We are honoured to have her by our side.

[Find out more](#)

## Join us

The Birth Companions Institute is here to drive radical change, but we cannot do it alone.

We are actively seeking long-term partnerships and support. Whether you're a policymaker, funder, academic, service provider, journalist or advocate, there is a role for you in this work.

To find out more about the Birth Companions Institute and how you can get involved, please visit [birthcompanions.org.uk/institute](https://birthcompanions.org.uk/institute) or contact us at [institute@birthcompanions.org.uk](mailto:institute@birthcompanions.org.uk).

**With love,  
Birth Companions**



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