

What is the BaBi Network?



BORN & BRED IN Network

The BaBi (Born and Bred In) Network is the collective name for a number of studies taking place across the country. Supported by the NIHR Applied Research Collaboration Yorkshire & Humber, BaBi is part of the Born in Bradford Programme.

Women are invited to take part in the study during pregnancy by their midwife. If they say yes, health researchers then link together routinely collected data* from parent and child to see how health, care and services could be improved.

BaBi cohorts are unique because they include consent for sites to keep in contact with women and their families, offering them the opportunity to take part in other important research studies.



Learn more about the data we collect at:
www.babinetwork.co.uk/info-for-participants

How does it work?

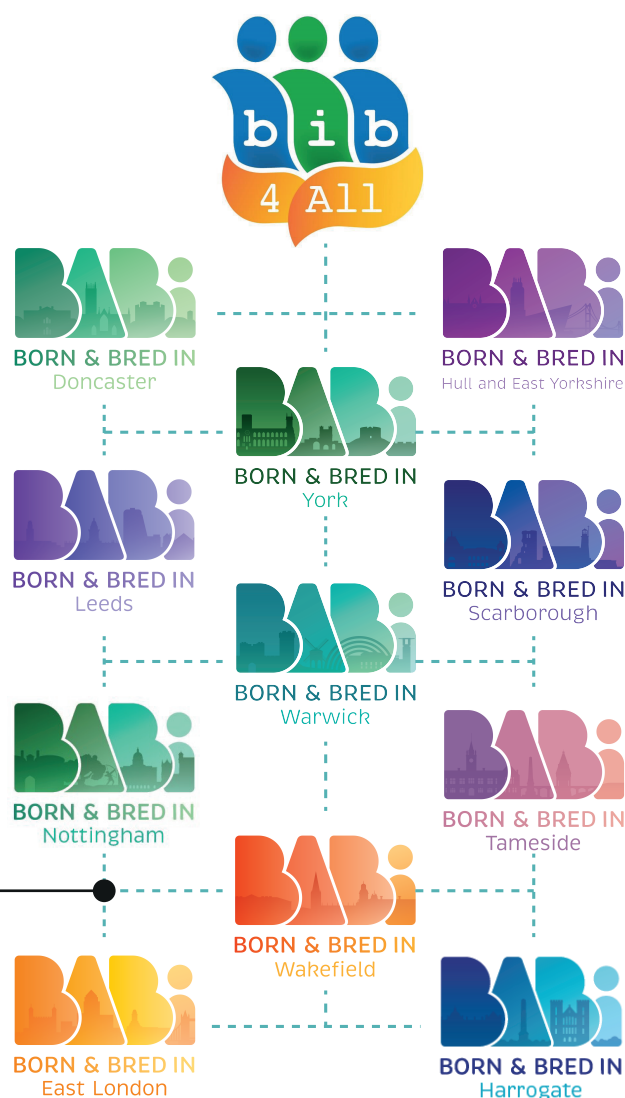
Born in Bradford's BiB4All is the coordinating centre for all the BaBi studies happening across the country.

This is where the ethical and governance aspects of the Network are managed, as well as making sure that the research makes an impact. The centre helps to create a community of practice and offers support to each area without compromising local ownership.



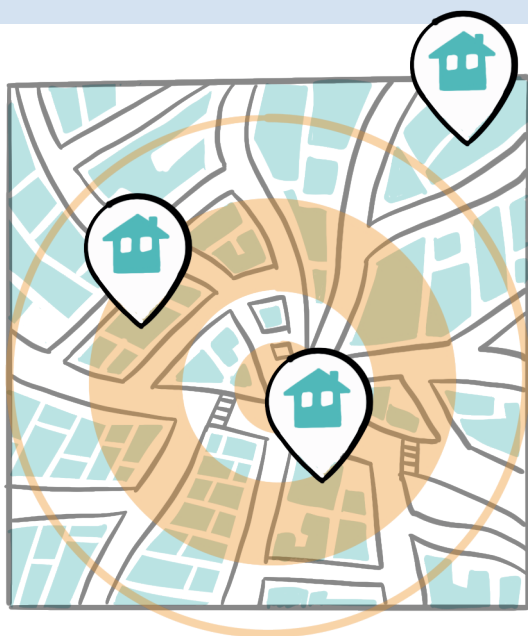
Joining data from BaBi sites together means that there are more opportunities for routine data to be used to answer research questions about health and services of local AND national importance over time.

New sites are joining BaBi all the time, for an up to date list visit: www.babinetwork.co.uk/babi-sites



Why does it matter?

The BaBi Network links data to answer big research questions. We look for relationships between cause and effect, so that we can inform decision making, helping to make improvements to service delivery and interventions.



For example:

A recent study looked at how air pollution affected babies' health. This involved checking how close babies with asthma lived to traffic congested roads. The results clearly showed a link.

We don't just publish our findings in reports. We use them as evidence to influence and persuade the people who look after us locally and nationally to change and improve the world we live in. This could mean:

- Banning diesel buses in certain areas
- Encouraging greener transport solutions
- Looking at new methods in GP practices to provide better or faster care.

The BaBi Network has also:



Trained over 800 clinical midwives to take consent for BaBi and get involved in research



Helped some NHS Trusts offer maternity research for the first time



Been the subject of a PhD exploring routine data



Created three national communities of practice to share expertise in communications and engagement, data, and research delivery



Leveraged almost £1 million of external funding to support BaBi



Produced a comprehensive toolkit for potential sites interested in BaBi and existing sites already open to recruitment



Supported BaBi sites to conduct priority setting activities to ensure data is being used to best effect



To find out if BaBi is in your area so you can take part, or if you are a researcher wanting to work with BaBi, visit:

www.babinetwork.co.uk