

Submission
No 1332

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

Name: Miss Erin Field

Date Received: 8 August 2023

Partially
Confidential

My name is Erin Field, I am 35 year paramedic that lives in . I have one 7month old boy born at hospital earlier this year.

I was fortunate enough to get into the MGP program at hospital. This program is amazing and really helped me develop a connection with my main midwife and also other midwives within the MGP team. All the midwives in the MGP team were knowledgeable and supportive in the lead up to my birth, during labour and post birth.

I went into spontaneous labour at 40+6 and has a relatively straight forward labour with no interventions required. The large bath in the birthing suit was the only place i felt comfortable and where I spend the majority if the labour, it was my happy place. I was never offered any analgesia through out the labour (i am unsure if this is common practice or not) I asked for the gas at some point and it was happily given to me. If i had of been offered more analgesia I definitely would have taken it.

Post birth, myself and baby were taken to the ward. All the staff were lovely however extremely understaffed and i felt like i was a bother asking for help with breast feeding. No one had time to sit with me or help. I was so grateful to see my amazing midwife from

the MGP program the next morning who sat with me and gave me all the time and guidance i needed. I left the hospital that afternoon after approximately 24hrs as i new that were short staffed again overnight and that i would have more support at home and my MGP midwife visiting again the next morning.

Overall I had a very positive pregnancy, labour and post birth experience. I believe the MGP program was a vital part of this experience