

Reproductive, Maternal and Paediatric Submission to the inquiry Sunday, 15 September 2024 4:12:07 PM

The Select Committee,

I lived in Trevallyn for 3.5 years (2018 - 2022) and was extremely privileged and fortunate to birth my second child at the Launceston Birth Centre with a Privately Practising Midwife.

The reason I chose this birth option was due to PTSD experienced at the Launceston hospital from my husband having a severe acute illness treated there prior to my pregnancy.

I knew many other women who were pregnant whilst I was who missed out on the opportunity to be able to access a private midwife due to this service being so unavailable in the Northwest of Tasmania and also due to the costs involved. Two of these women went on to have unassisted free births for this reason.

I urge the Tasmanian government to investigate the poor availability of birth choices (particularly birth outside hospital confines for low risk pregnancies) in Northern Tasmania.

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