

Creating a Better Birth Environment

Area / room / ward:						
Audit completed by:					Date:	
Aspect	Standards	Score 2	Score 1	Score 0	Total score	Comments
Cleanliness	Clean	Completely clean. Bins empty	Reasonably clean. Bins empty	Dirt / waste / blood stains visible		
Decoration	Nicely decorated	High standard, well coordinated	Attractive, some wear and tear	Unattractive, shabby, or not coordinated		
Room quality	Homely looking Drink and snack facilities	Furnishing to good domestic standard, tea making facilities in room	Some institutional furniture, some visual interest, shared kitchen	Institutional furniture, dreary looking, vending machine in corridor		
Furnishing	Comfortable bed Comfortable chair	Comfortable, adjustable wide bed, plus at least one good armchair	An adjustable bed and upholstered chair	High or narrow bed that is not comfortable. Hard chair or no chair		
Space	Able to move / walk Able to move the furniture Pleasant place to walk	Good-sized individual room; bed at one side, or moved out if not required. Easy access to pleasant place to walk	Space not dominated by bed. Bed removed or pushed to one side. A place to walk about.	Limited space with bed(s) taking up most of the available room. Nowhere to walk about.		
Toilet	Easy access to a toilet	Sole use of en suite toilet	Toilet shared with one other room	Toilet shared and accessed via corridor		
Water	Easy access to: - shower - bath - pool	Birthing pool in room or en suite	Large bath or shower in room or en suite	No direct access to shower, bath, or pool		
Privacy	Not overlooked Not overheard No uninvited guests	Private space. Good sound insulation. Full respect for privacy	Not over-looked, but screening of door / window / guests could be improved	Sharing with others. Many people enter room. Could be overheard		
Control	Lighting Heating	Adjustable low level lighting and heating. Airy	Either heat or lighting adjustable, but not both	Overhead lighting / no control over heating		
Labour aids	Pillows, mats, bean bags	Pillows, mats birth ball, shelves beanbags	Pillows, plus some other comfort aids	Not enough pillows. No comfort aids visible		
Total Points (maximum 20)						