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30th March 2021

Deputy Cairns
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ16960/21: To ask the Minister for Health the way in which data is collected and examined regarding the provision of reproductive services to disabled persons including abortion services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cairns,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

In relation to the query regarding data collection and examination, the HSE does not collect data specific to disabled persons and reproductive services.

The decision of a woman to become pregnant is essentially a private decision as indeed is the decision regarding the management of that pregnancy vis-à-vis options available regarding provision of termination of pregnancy services in Ireland and are decisions which the State and the HSE does not try to influence.

If any woman is pregnant and decides to terminate the pregnancy, information on services available via the HSE in this regard are available at the links below

- <https://www2.hse.ie/abortion/>
- <https://www2.hse.ie/services/unplanned-pregnancy-support-services/my-options-freephone-line.html>
- <https://www2.hse.ie/file-library/unplanned-pregnancy/guide-to-medical-abortion.pdf>

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary-Jo Biggs'.

Mary-Jo Biggs, General Manager, National Women and Infants Health Programme