



Clár Sláinte Náisiúnta do Mhná & do Naíonáin  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Aonad 7A, Áras  
Dargan, An Ceantar Theas, Baile Átha Cliath 8  
T: 076 695 9991

National Women and Infants Health Programme  
Health Service Executive, Unit 7A, The Dargan Building,  
Heuston South Quarter, Dublin 8  
T: 076 695 9991

22<sup>nd</sup> April 2022

Deputy Cullinane  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ Ref 18580/22 To ask the Minister for Health the number of maternity hospitals and maternity units which provide surgical termination of pregnancy; the number of surgical terminations of pregnancy carried out in each for each year since 2019, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Cullinane.

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.

The usual standard of care for a termination of pregnancy, under section 11 of the Act, is a medical termination. A surgical termination may be provided if clinically indicated or in cases of patient preference. A surgical termination requires access to theatre and this may impact on the timeliness of provision. Currently eight of the ten service providers have provided surgical terminations.

The HSE do not routinely collect data on the number of surgical terminations performed. The total number of terminations performed annually is described in the Minister's annual report to the Oireachtas. Please see below the links to both the 2019 and 2020 reports.

<https://assets.gov.ie/78445/ed81dafb-963c-4e1c-ba29-98cce5118d7c.pdf>

<https://assets.gov.ie/138755/6ae02c5a-c60b-4954-b438-8e8397eb0aaf.pdf>

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

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