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4th May 2022

Deputy Collins
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ Ref 19601/22: To ask the Minister for Health the name of the stakeholders that were consulted as part of the review of the revised model of care for termination of pregnancy services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ Ref 20159/22: To ask the Minister for Health the name of the stakeholders that were consulted as part of the review of the Revised Model of Care for Termination of Pregnancy; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ Ref 19602/22: To ask the Minister for Health the date on which the review of the revised model of care for termination of pregnancy services commenced; and the date on which the review ended; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ Ref 19602/22: To ask the Minister for Health the date on which the review of the Revised Model of Care for Termination of Pregnancy commenced; and the date on which the review ended; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Collins,

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

In light of the easing of Covid-19 restrictions, in September of 2021 the Department requested the HSE to revisit the Model of Care to review its operation and consider whether it should be retained going forward.

In conducting this review, the National Women and Infants Health Programme invited submissions from termination of pregnancy providers in primary and secondary care with a focus on patient safety and the acceptability of the service to both women and service providers. Members of the Clinical Advisory Forum on Termination of Pregnancy were invited to submit their views and experience. Submissions were received from Consultants in Obstetrics & Gynaecology providing hospital-based services, general practitioners, members of the Southern Taskforce On Abortion and Reproductive Topics (START), the Irish College of General Practitioners, the Irish Family Planning Association, the Dublin Well Woman Centre and MyOptions.

The review was completed and submitted to the Department in December 2021.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,



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