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20th July 2022

Deputy Cullinane
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ Ref 36886/22: To ask the Minister for Health the number of surgical terminations of pregnancy provided at each location which should be providing the service in tabular form; if he will request this information from each of the service providers where it is not collated centrally; 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 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 the 2019, 2020 and 2021 reports.

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

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

<https://assets.gov.ie/229909/2e7c74df-8c05-4263-be47-5ffe1b435250.pdf>

The HSE is in the process of establishing a service evaluation mechanism for termination of pregnancy services in both the Acute and Community settings. This work is at an early stage and will be done in collaboration with the Department of Health. The service evaluation mechanism will focus on evaluating service provision and identifying opportunities for improvement with regard to termination of pregnancy services.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Davinia O'Donnell, General Manager, National Women and Infants Health Programme

