



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

17th June 2022

Deputy Toibin
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ Ref 27559/22: To ask the Minister for Health the total amount spent on abortion provision in 2021; the breakdown of the amount spent in general practitioner and community settings; the amount spent in hospitals; the amount spent on counselling; and the other training expenditure or miscellaneous expenditure in relation to same.

Dear Deputy Toibin,

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 spend within the acute hospital sector, the acute hospital system was allocated €7 million of recurring funding in 2019 to support the roll-out of termination services.

Within the acute hospital setting, funding was used to recruit additional personnel resources across a range of sites to implement this new service within the hospital sector. Resources supported by this investment included additional consultant obstetricians and gynaecologists, midwives and nurses, ultra-sonographers, theatre staff, bereavement specialists, administrators, medical social workers and pharmacists. These resources, whilst funded and established utilising funding provided to support termination of pregnancy services, have developed and being embedded within existing gynaecology and maternity services such that termination of pregnancy service is just one of the areas of responsibilities that they hold on the ground.

The funding allocated in 2019 has remained within the base budgets of the respective hospitals and continues to fund the relevant salaries etc.

In relation to the funding provided to the GPs by the HSE regarding the provision of termination services in the community, a total of €3.4 million was spent in this regard in 2021. Of this funding €64.6k was spent on pregnancy kids, whilst the remainder was to cover consultations and aftercare provided.

My Options, the HSE service that provides free and confidential information and counselling to people experiencing an unplanned pregnancy, and the Crisis Pregnancy Counselling service spent a combined total of €2.2 million in 2021.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,



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