HSE

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03rd August 2023

Deputy Bacik
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ Ref 36909/23: To ask the Minister for Health if his Department or the HSE will provide a subsidy for college health centres to provide abortion services; the projected cost of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Bacik,

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 majority of termination of pregnancy services up to 9 weeks gestation take place in community settings. There are currently 418 termination of pregnancy providers in the community, this includes 10 women's health entities. GP's who have an interest in providing termination of pregnancy services in the community, must first sign and return the 'Contractor Details and Acceptance' form. Thereafter the HSE's National Contracts Office provides the applicant with supporting documentation to enable them to provide the service. A schedule of fees is set out in the 'Contract for the Provision of a Termination of Pregnancy Service Pursuant to The Health Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy Act 2018, which is available online at: https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/gmscontracts/termination-of-pregnancy-draft-contract/termination-of-pregnancy-service-contract-nov-2019.pdf

At present, there is no plan or mechanism to subsidise organisations to provide termination of pregnancy services in the community.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

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

National
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Health Programme