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03rd November 2023

Deputy Collins
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 45931/23: To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an annual breakdown of the number of abortions provided in hospital-based abortion services under Section 12 of the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018 from 2019 to 2022, inclusive.

PQ 45932/23: To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an annual breakdown of the number of abortions provided by the community-based healthcare providers such as GPs, family planning clinics, women's health clinics, student health services under Section 12 of the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018 from 2019 to 2022, inclusive.

Dear Deputy Collins.

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 Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018 was passed by the Houses of the Oireachtas and signed into law by the President in December 2018. The Health Service Executive commenced provision of an expanded termination of pregnancy services as provided for under this Act on 1st January 2019.

Data on termination is collated by the Department of Health via the notification process. The Minister for Health must prepare a report on the notifications received in a given year not later than 30 June the following year and lay it before the Houses of the Oireachtas. This report may then be published. The first four reports, for 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 can be found on the links below.

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/b410b-health-regulation-of-termination-of-pregnancy-act-2018-annual-report-on-notifications-2019/>

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/ef674-health-regulation-of-termination-of-pregnancy-act-2018-annual-report-on-notifications-2020/>

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/ce61b-notifications-in-accordance-with-section-20-of-the-health-regulation-of-termination-of-pregnancy-act-2018-annual-report-2021/>

<https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/9851a-fourth-annual-report-on-notifications-in-accordance-with-the-health-regulation-of-termination-of-pregnancy-act-2018/>

Material published on information contained in notifications is restricted to limit the risk of identification. The HSE, is in the process of developing data sets and frameworks for monitoring and evaluating termination of pregnancy services nationally.

Yours sincerely,



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