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Deputy Carol Nolan Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

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To ask the Minister for Health if a decision was taken at Department of Health and HSE level, prior to the abortion law changing in 2019, to adopt an approach to pregnancy counselling services, such as including the withholding of public funding from any pregnancy counselling agency not prepared to engage in abortion referral under the new legal regime proposed in 2018; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Nolan,

Thank you for your question to the Minister for Health, which was forwarded to my office to respond to you directly.

There is no record of such a decision in our files. However, the HSE changed the model of service delivery in line with the introduction of Termination of Pregnancy services and some services were unable to operate in that framework due to their ethos.

Yours Sincerely,

**Orla McGowan** Programme Lead Sexual Health Programme, HSE Health and Wellbeing