

From the Deputy Chief Medical Officer
Dr Elizabeth Mitchell



Department of
**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

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AN ROINN

**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

MÁNNYSTRIE O

**Poustie, Resydènter Heisin
an Fowk Siccar**

HSS (MD) 29/2010

Chief Executives, Health & Social Care Trusts
Medical Directors, HSC Trusts (*for onward
dissemination to all Trust Doctors*)
Directors of Nursing, HSC Trusts (*for onward
dissemination to all Trust Midwives and Nurses*)
All General Practitioners
Chief Executive, Health & Social Care Board (*for
distribution to Board employed doctors*)
Chief Executive, Public Health Agency
Chief Executive, Business Services Organisation
Director of Public Health, Public Health Agency
(*for distribution to PHA employed doctors*)
Director of Nursing, Public Health Agency (*for
distribution to PHA employed Midwives and
Nurses*)

Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
Belfast BT4 3SQ
Tel: 028 90 520716
Fax: 028 90 520574
Email: elizabeth.mitchell@dhsspsni.gov.uk

Your Ref:
Our Ref: HSS MD 29/2010
Date: 27 July 2010

Dear Colleague

GUIDANCE ON THE TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY IN NORTHERN IRELAND

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the withdrawal of the Department's interim Guidance on the Termination of Pregnancy published in February 2010.

As you will be aware, this interim Guidance was published in February 2010 and omitted sections on conscientious objection and counselling following a Judicial Review decision in November 2009.

The Department has now redrafted the sections on counselling and conscientious objection and has issued revised Guidance for consultation. You will receive notice of this in separate correspondence. Final Guidance on the Termination of Pregnancy: The Law and Clinical Practice in Northern Ireland will be published by the Department in due course.

Yours sincerely

DR ELIZABETH MITCHELL
Deputy Chief Medical Officer

Working for a Healthier People



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