

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for the request from the NI Assembly Committee for Health, to hear our views on the **Severe Fetal Impairment Abortion (Amendment) Bill**.

Sadly, we can't accept the invitation to contribute evidence to this Bill as we are aware our membership have varied views on issues around abortions due to their own personal circumstances and beliefs, and that the debates likely arising from this Bill are more for wider societal opinion within Northern Ireland. However, we would get agreement from our membership in endorsing the comment from UN-CEDAW that whatever choices are made, they are made "without perpetuating stereotypes towards persons with disabilities and ensuring appropriate and ongoing support, social and financial, for women who decide to carry such pregnancies to term" . The RCOG may be better placed on this occasion to contribute evidence to the Committee.

Regards

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