



Seirbhís Náisiúnta Otharcharranna
Teach Dara, Ascaill an Crann Teile
Páirc na Míloise
Nás na Rí, Co. Chill Dara W91 KDC2

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Ms Niamh Smyth TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 17912/19: “To ask the Minister for Health if ambulance shortages will be addressed for staff rostering in County Monaghan which has emerged due to the removal of a vehicle (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Details supplied: I was informed that the issue of no ambulance in Castleblayney has been solved, by taking the ambulance assigned to the new roster out of Monaghan. This is literally a case of robbing Peter to pay Paul. Apparently it was decided to take the ambulance from Monaghan despite there being another vehicle in Dublin that is surplus to requirements. So now the problem lies in Monaghan station whereby if all our night crews and morning crews are out on calls there is no vehicle for the newly 11-9 rostered crews to go onto.

PQ 17913/19: “To ask the Minister for Health if a new ambulance allocated recently to County Monaghan to help manage new rostering has been moved to cover Castleblaney which has no ambulance; if so, the reason the ambulance was not taken from another county in which there are surplus ambulances to requirements to fill the gap; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Re: PQ 17915/19: “To ask the Minister for Health the number of new ambulance personnel recruited in counties Cavan and Monaghan in the past year (details supplied); if these staff were already classified as unrostered staff prior to this announcement; the reason no new additional staff were rostered; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Details supplied: In regard to the new staff coming to the station in Monaghan, I have heard that the three new staff starting on the 15th. Unfortunately 2 of those are staff who already work as unrostered staff which means they are NOT EXTRA STAFF. The third person being brought in actually left the service about four months ago and is coming back into a promotive position. His position was never filled when he left. This means there is not 6 extra people starting as reported previously in local media and in PQ replies to me.

Dear Deputy Smyth,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.



I have been advised by NAS Management North Leinster that there have been six development posts created within the National Ambulance Service in Cavan and Monaghan and while a number of staff were previously non rostered, they were allocated to new rostered positions within those stations.

There is a collective agreement in place in relation to the filling of vacant positions which operates on a seniority basis to rostered staff in the first instance and following this, offers will then be made to the most senior non rostered staff members. This process also ensures there is opportunity for non rostered staff to be appointed to a fixed permanent rostered line.

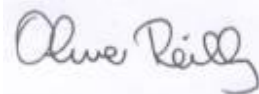
The National Ambulance Service constantly monitors staffing levels and when staff are allocated to permanent lines, the resulting number variations are managed by additional non rostered staff being allocated into the area. This process is undertaken by transfer to a dispatch area which allows staff to be allocated to an area as opposed to a station. This allows for a more dynamic arrangement in that the staff can be strategically located where/as required.

The National Ambulance Service fleet in North Leinster operates in line with rosters and shift patterns and to ensure resilience for maintenance purposes.

Local NAS Managers ensure vehicles for oncoming crews are available as part of the resilience as outlined above and this on occasion may require a vehicle to be relocated from one station to another. There is no surplus of vehicles at any site however due to variations in shift patterns.

I trust this information is of assistance to you and should you require additional information please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Oliver Reilly". The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed in a light blue rectangular box.

Oliver Reilly
Asst Chief Ambulance Officer