



Oifig Stiúrthóir na Seirbhíse Náisiúnta Otharcharranna,  
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Otharcharranna,  
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Mr. Denis Naughten TD,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Dublin 2.

24<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

**Re: PQ 23200/20.**

**To ask the Minister for Health if there has been an interruption to the air ambulance service based at Custume Barracks, Athlone, County Westmeath to date in 2020; the number of missions tasked in each month to date in 2020; his plans to maintain the service during Covid-19 restrictions at Custume Barracks; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Naughten,

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.

In response, there was a brief interruption to the Emergency Aeromedical Service for pilot training during the first quarter of 2020. The HSE National Ambulance Service Advanced Paramedic crew member was re-assigned to other duties during this short period. There has been no interruption of the service due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the service is being maintained. The number of monthly requests for 2020 to the end of August are as follows: January - 31, February - 49, March - 44, April - 55, May - 61, June - 71, July - 56 and August - 60.

I trust this information is of assistance to and should you require additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Pauline McDonagh - Senior Executive Officer.

