



Oifig Stiúrthóir na Seirbhíse Náisiúnta Otharcharranna,
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Otharcharranna,
Áras na hAbhann,
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Mr. John McGuinness TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2.

4th March 2021.

Re: PQ 9234/21.

To ask the Minister for Health if there is a procurement process in place to provide bottled water for use by staff and patients in the ambulance service; if it is HSE policy to provide bottled water in ambulances; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy McGuinness,

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.

I wish to confirm that the National Ambulance Service (NAS) have a consumables contract in place, following the necessary procurement process, for their ambulance fleet. As patients may be required to take medication in tablet format, therefore, it is policy to provide bottled water in ambulances.

In addition, in the South East, with staff health and wellbeing funding received under the HSE 'Healthy Ireland in the workplace' initiative, staff were provided with reusable water bottles which can be refilled at ambulance bases with filtered water - water filters are also under HSE contract.

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

Yours sincerely,

Pauline McDonagh - Senior Executive Officer.