



Oifig Stiúrthóir na Seirbhíse Náisiúnta Otharcharranna,
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Otharcharranna,
Áras na hAbhann,
Crosbhóthar Thamhlachta,
Tamhlacht,
Baile Áth Cliath D24 XNP2.
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Ms. Claire Kerrane TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2.

30th June 2021.

Re: PQ 23755/21 & PQ23756/21

PQ 23755/21; To ask the Minister for Health the number of times in 2020 and to date in 2021 an emergency ambulance has been used for hospital discharges in which the intermediate care ambulance is not rostered on.

PQ23756/21; To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider increasing the shifts of intermediate care ambulance crews to free up emergency ambulances to respond to emergency calls; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Kerrane,

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. The National Ambulance Service wishes to apologise for the delay in responding to your Parliamentary Question which can be accounted for by the recent cyber-attack on the Health Service Executive.

In 2020, Emergency Ambulances undertook 3,946 transfers (which represent 14.09% out of a total of 27,989 calls). Due to the recent Health Service Executive cyber-attack, the last currently available published report for 2021 (up to 31st March) confirms that there were 981 transfers (which represent 12.29% out of a total of 7,978 calls).

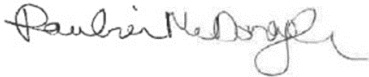
The National Ambulance Service is focused on improving the provision of service delivery, to this end an analysis of operational resources is currently planned.



With regard to the resources of the intermediate care ambulance service, the National Ambulance Service is focused on improving the provision of its services. Work is ongoing in ensuring appropriate capacity/resources levels and improved operational processes through further investment in fleet and equipment based on yearly reviews of its services.

I apologise that I cannot be of any further assistance to you with regard to PQ 23755/21 and should you require other information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Pauline McDonagh', written in black ink.

Pauline McDonagh - Senior Executive Officer.