

Oifig Stiúrthóir na Seirbhíse Náisiúnta Otharcharranna, An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Otharcharrranna, Áras na hAbhann, Crosbhóthar Thamhlachta, Tamhlacht, Baile Áth Cliath D24 XNP2. Fón 01 4631624/6. Riomhphost: director.nas@hse.ie

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Mr. Éamon Ó Cuív TD, Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Dublin 2.

30th June 2021.

Re: PQ25374/21. To ask the Minister for Health when the report promised by the National Ambulance Service at a virtual meeting with public representatives recently into where the optimum location for a further ambulance deployment base in Connemara would be; the type of base that would be required, will be completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Ó Cuív,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the HSE Parliamentary Affairs Division for a 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 cyberattack on the Health Service Executive.

The National Ambulance Service have been engaging on the provision of an additional emergency ambulance resource for Connemara with local representatives on an ongoing basis. The most recent engagement took place on 19th April 2021, with the Chief Ambulance Office for the Division, via a virtual meeting platform with the Connemara Ambulance Crisis Group and other virtual attendees invited by that Group.

The National Ambulance Service is focused on improving the provision of service delivery, to this end an analysis of operational resources is currently planned. Also, work is ongoing with the expansion of the number of Community First Responder Schemes within this geographical area. For example, in Connemara, two Community First Responder groups have returned to service following COVID-19 stand-down, while four other groups will be reactivated (in line with return to service protocols) in the coming weeks. In addition, representation has been received from four new communities wishing to establish local Community First Responder Groups.



As a result of the discussions on 19th April 2021, an activity report was circulated via e-mail to on 5th May 2021 to one of the virtual attendees for further circulation. The National Ambulance Service have not received any feedback to date regarding the report provided nor has a follow-up meeting been organised.

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.