



Oifig anStiúrthóir
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta,

Foirgneamh Aibhneacha, Crosbhóthar
Thamhlachta, Tamhlacht,
Baile Átha Cliath D24 XNP2

Office of the Director
National Ambulance Service

Rivers Building, Tallaght Cross
Tallaght, Dublin, D24 XNP2

www.hse.ie
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)

t 01 4631624/6
e director.nas@hse.ie

Ref: WM/PQ's/220809

9th August 2022

Deputy David Cullinane TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 39404/22

To ask the Minister for Health the total amount of funding allocated to community paramedicine for 2022; the breakdown of the allocation of such funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ41907/22

To ask the Minister for Health the baseline whole-time equivalent staff required by the National Ambulance Service in each year from 2022 to 2026, in tabular form; the predicted turnover and retirement rates; the gross and net additional staff by grade required to meet these targets; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ41908/22

To ask the Minister for Health the additional capacity requirements needed to meet 2026 workforce requirements in terms of locations, fleet and equipment; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ41909/22

To ask the Minister for Health his plans to train and recruit the requisite number of paramedics to meet the needs of the National Ambulance Service by 2026; if he has identified the number of graduates required in each year; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) National Ambulance Service (NAS) 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.

PQ 39404/22

NAS currently operates a number of Community Paramedics around the country which were provided for in the National Service Plan 2020 and 2021. However, the regulatory framework required is not currently in place to allow this model to grow beyond the pilot stage at this stage, hence there is no provision in the National Service Plan 2022 for additional Community Paramedics.

The Pre Hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC) are working to establish an appropriate regulatory framework at this time and in this context, NAS expects to be able to restart Community Paramedic development in 2023, hence an appropriate submission will be made for funding through the estimates process for 2023.





PQ41907/22

Please see attached the workforce planning information available:

NAS WTE	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Total 2022 - 2026
Baseline WTE	2,039.87	2,379.65	3,056.97	3,766.26	4,382.03	-
Estimated turnover %	4.4%	4.4%	4.4%	4.4%	4.4%	-
Predicted retirements*	17	19	20	34	31	121
Predicted early retirements due to illness**	0.32%	0.32%	0.32%	0.32%	0.32%	-
Resource gap created through retirements and staff turnover	113.28	131.32	164.29	211.77	237.83	858.49
WTE required as per NAS Emergency Capacity Review 2022	35	230	271	259	294	1089.00
WTE to achieve NSP 2022 - 2026	191.5	316	274	145	145	1071.50
Resource Requirement	2,379.65	3,056.97	3,766.26	4,382.03	5,058.86	3018.99 (5,058.86 - 2,039.87)

PQ41908/22

Please see attached the infrastructural planning information available:

National Ambulance Service Strategic Plan 2021 - 2026 Estates Indicative Costings						
Item	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	TOTALS
	Capital	Capital	Capital	Capital	Capital	
Stations and Deployment Points	€5,000,000	€25,000,000	€27,500,000	€30,250,000	€33,275,000	€121,025,000
Minor Capital Works	€1,000,000	€1,100,000	€1,210,000	€1,331,000	€1,464,100	€6,105,100
	€6,000,000	€26,100,000	€28,710,000	€31,581,000	€34,739,100	€127,130,100
NAS CURRENT ESTATES ESTIMATE (NOT INCLUDING EXTRA 1800 OPERATIONAL STAFF WTEs)	€ 129,960,985					
Current States NAS Regional Ambulance Station Summary Table						
	RDP	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Total
North Leinster	8	8	10	7	2	35
South	3	17	8	1	3	32
West	4	16	8	4	5	37
Sub-totals	15	41	26	12	10	104
Summary of the analysis in NAS Estates Document from 2021 concludes the following synopsis for the current stock of ambulance stations						
Adequate Facilities						42
Minor Capital investment required						9
Major Capital Investment required						37
Significant upgrade requires						13
Currently in construction or undergoing refurb						3

Fleet replacement and development are planned as part of a rolling 5 year programme and not included in the attached.





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PQ41909/22

The workforce planning requirements of NAS include a broad range of staff, including but not limited to Paramedics. As budgeting is an annual process, funding submissions can only be made on an annual basis.

As the estimates process for 2023 is ongoing, NAS cannot confirm the numbers expected to be approved in 2023. We can confirm that our current capacity to commence Student Paramedics on the three-year degree programme in 2023 is 192 which would include both new developments and replacement staff.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Robert Morton, Director
National Ambulance Service

