



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Oibríochtaí  
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta  
Bloc 4, Lárionad Gnó,  
Tulach Mhór,  
Co. Uíbh Fhailí, R35 FH59

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Ref: WM/PQ/221102

Deputy Violet-Anne Wynne TD  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

10 November 2022

**PQ 54914/22 To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline in detail the Pathfinder model for the National Ambulance Service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Violet-Anne Wynne**

**PQ 54915/22 To ask the Minister for Health the timeline for the planned national roll-out of the Pathfinder model; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Violet-Anne Wynne**

Dear Deputy Wynne,

The 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 response.

**PQ 54914/22**

The Pathfinder service is a collaborative care model between NAS Advanced Paramedics and Acute Hospital Health & Social Care Professionals (Senior & Clinical Specialist OT's & Physio's). They work in a team, serving a Hospital Catchment area responding to 999/112 calls from patients over 65 years old with low acuity events/conditions. The care model has proven very successful over the last two and a half years operating in the Beaumont Hospital Catchment area with the team treating over two thirds of the patients seen (average age of 80 Years old) in their own homes, where clinically appropriate, avoiding the need for conveyance to Hospital Emergency Departments

The plan is for further Pathfinder teams to be rolled out to serve more of our patients over 65 years old, to provide as much of their care as is safe in their own homes. In early 2023 there are plans to roll out more Pathfinder teams in Cork, Kerry, Kilkenny, Donegal & Galway

For more detail on the model please see attached the recent HSE Press Release outlining the 3 new Pathfinder teams which commenced on Monday 24 October 2022.

**PQ 54915/22**

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I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

William Merriman  
Director Of Operations  
National Ambulance Service





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