



Ref: WM/PQ's/221026

27 October 2022

Deputy Róisín Shortall,
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 51904/22

To ask the Minister for Health in relation to the ambulance service for counties Offaly, Westmeath, Laois, Longford and Kildare, the number of ambulances serving each county; the ratio of ambulance to population for each county; the number of times that each ambulance service for each has had to travel 50 km or more for each month to date in 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Shortall,

The National Ambulance Service (NAS) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the minister for response.

Emergency Ambulance Vehicles

Offaly		Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Total
Tullamore	Days	2	2	2	3	3	1	1	14
	Nights	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	9
Birr	Days	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
	Nights	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	6
Edenderry	Days	2	2	2	2	1	0	1	10
	Nights	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7

Westmeath		Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Total
Athlone	Days	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	14
	Nights	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	12
Mullingar	Days	3	3	3	2	3	2	2	18
	Nights	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	12

Longford		Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Total
Longford	Days	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	14
	Nights	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	12

Laois		Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Total
Portlaois	Days	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	18
	Nights	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	11





Kildare		Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Total
Naas	Days	3	2	2	3	3	2	2	14
	Nights	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	9
Athy	Days	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	10
	Nights	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
Maynooth	Days	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	6
	Nights	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7

Intermediate Care Service Vehicles

Offaly		Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Total
Tullamore	Days	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7

Westmeath									Total
Mullingar	Days	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	4

Rapid Response Vehicles

Offaly		Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Total
Tullamore	Days	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	6
	Nights	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7

Central Statistics Office 2016 data:

County	Population
Laois	84,000
Longford	40,900
Offaly	78,000
Westmeath	88,000
Kildare	222,000

The NAS operates on a national basis and mobilises responses to calls for assistance based on patient needs, ambulances may travel to and be dispatched from various locations irrespective of their base as they are not confined to work in geographical areas. The current deployment model is designed around international best practice and has eliminated previous practices where the nearest ambulance was not always dispatched due to former legacy boundaries.

In relation to the number of times that each ambulance service for each has had to travel 50 km or more for each month to date in 2022, the NAS does not collect the data relating to distance travelled.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

William Merriman
Director of Operations
National Ambulance Service

