



Oifig anStiúrthóir  
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta,

Foirgneamh Aibhneacha, Crosbhóthar  
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06<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Deputy Cathal Crowe  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ 43397/22**

**To ask the Minister for Health if he, in consultation with the HSE, will ensure that the recruitment process in the National Ambulance Service is streamlined (details supplied). -Cathal Crowe**

*Further info: Nas have a recruitment campaign for qualified paramedics. It's on going but the process is very long and involves multiple assessment. Even paramedics qualified via PHECC (the Irish regulator) need to jump through all these hoops. Mean while, UK based emergency trusts are pushing to give these qualified staff jobs without so much as an interview. Mainly I am talking about paramedics qualified through the university of Limerick. They are all qualified to the same regulations and standards as any other Irish paramedic but those who try and gain employment with NAS are often rejected. From word of mouth about only 1 in 10 are offered a job. Can you look into this recruitment campaign and maybe push NAS to change the process for paramedics that hold a PHECC registration. (This is the registration that all NAS paramedics hold). It is one way that more paramedics can get into the system. University of Limerick are qualifying about 30+ paramedics a year for the last 5 years or so. It would be interesting to see how many are employees of NAS, my guess is very few and that is not for want of trying.*

Dear Deputy Crowe

The Health Service Executive (HSE) 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 Health for response.

The process for any qualified paramedic to start with NAS is through the rolling campaign in NRS. All vacancies are offered out through a transfer process internally which is a collective agreement with the unions and then any vacancies left are offered to the live panel.

I hope that this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Colette Walsh  
Assistant National Director, Human Resources.  
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