



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

Office of the Director of Operations
National Ambulance Service
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Ref: WM/PQ/230201

30th January 2023

Deputy Holly Cairns
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 2442/23

To ask the Minister for Health the average response time of ambulances in west County Cork; the number of ambulances that are ordinarily based at each location; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Holly Cairns

PQ 2443/23

To ask the Minister for Health the number of paramedics who are assigned to ambulance services in west County Cork; and the optimum number of paramedics that should serve that area. -Holly Cairns

Dear Deputy Cairns,

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.

The call taking and dispatch function is operated by the NAS National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) which operates across two sites, Dublin and Ballyshannon. All NAS resources are dispatched to calls across the country from the NEOC on a nearest available (to the incident) basis and not on a county boundary basis.

PQ 2442/23

To ask the Minister for Health the average response time of ambulances in West County Cork.

As you are aware NAS report monthly on Echo and Delta call activity, category 1 (– life threatening – cardiac or respiratory arrest or life threatening other than cardiac or respiratory arrest) calls on as per Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) recommendations.

We do not publish reports on category 2 or 3 calls and we do not report on a county by county basis, or by CHO.

Please see the table below in relation to the average response time AS1 – 112/ 999 emergency and urgent calls reported on in the Southern region for 2022.





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2022	
SOUTHERN	00:31

The number of ambulances that are ordinarily based at each NAS location (West Cork):

	Day	Night
Bantry Emergency Ambulance	1	1
Bantry Intermediate Care Vehicle	1	-
Bantry Rapid Response Vehicle (Dunmanway)	1	-
Castletownbere Emergency Ambulance	1	1
Skibbereen Emergency Ambulance	1	1
Clonakilty Emergency Ambulance	1	1

PQ 2443/23

To ask the Minister for Health the number of paramedics who are assigned to ambulance services in west County Cork; and the optimum number of paramedics that should serve that area.

At present the National Ambulance Service has 40 staff positions in West Cork, and this is full staffing levels for the area.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

William Merriman
Director of Operations
National Ambulance Service

