



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

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5 July 2023

Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 29957/23

To ask the Minister for Health the average response time for an ambulance from each base in County Sligo in 2022 and for the first four months of 2023, in tabular form. -David Cullinane

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 Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

In line with International Best Practice, the NAS operates a dynamic deployment model which results in the closest ambulance being tasked to respond to high acuity Purple calls (Life Threatening cardiac or respiratory) or Red calls (life threatening illness or injury other than cardiac or respiratory arrest). This 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.

Response times per county are not deemed a Key Performance Indicator (KPI) for the Health Information Quality Authority (HIQA), the Department of Health (DoH) or the National Ambulance Service (NAS). Therefore, reporting and publishing of response times on a county by county basis is not a requirement. The NAS report monthly on Purple calls (Life Threatening cardiac or respiratory) and Red calls (life threatening illness or injury other than cardiac or respiratory arrest) on a regional basis.

The table below details the average response time per month since 2022 for the North-West Region, which covers County Sligo.





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| YEAR | MONTH | AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME (CATEGORY 1 CALL) |
|------|-------|---|
| 2022 | JAN | 00:20 |
| | FEB | 00:19 |
| | MAR | 00:22 |
| | APR | 00:22 |
| | MAY | 00:20 |
| | JUN | 00:21 |
| | JUL | 00:24 |
| | AUG | 00:23 |
| | SEP | 00:22 |
| | OCT | 00:22 |
| | NOV | 00:23 |
| | DEC | 00:29 |
| 2023 | JAN | 00:21 |
| | FEB | 00:20 |
| | MAR | 00:22 |
| | APR | 00:21 |
| | MAY | 00:19 |

I hope this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

William Merriman
Director of Operations
National Ambulance Service

