



Oifig anStiúrthóir  
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta,

Foirgneamh Aibhneacha, Crosbhóthar  
Thamhlachta, Tamhlacht,  
Baile Átha Cliath D24 XNP2

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Ref: WM/PQ/2164/2161/2166

1<sup>st</sup> February 2024

Deputy Martin Kenny TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ/2164/24**

**To ask the Minister for Health for a breakdown of the number of life-threatening calls that ambulance services attended within 19 minutes, and the time it took to attend all other life-threatening calls in County Leitrim during 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Martin Kenny**

**PQ/2161/24**

**To ask the Minister for Health if he will request that the HSE provide additional ambulances and paramedic crews for County Leitrim; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Martin Kenny**

**PQ2166/24**

**To ask the Minister for Health for a breakdown of the number of critical calls that ambulance services attended within 19 minutes and the time it took to attend all critical calls in County Leitrim during 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter-Martin Kenny**

Dear Deputy Kenny

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.

NAS operates a dynamic model of ambulance deployment. This is in line with international best practice and allows the NAS to prioritise resource allocation to the highest acuity calls that require an immediate emergency response. Dynamic deployment also allows the NAS to categorise non-serious or non-life-threatening calls, and to provide a resource appropriate to the patient's clinical need.

NAS report monthly on PURPLE (Echo) and RED (Delta) call activity, category AS1 (life threatening cardiac or respiratory arrest or life threatening other than cardiac or respiratory arrest) calls. 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 on the following KPI's:

- KPI Target 2023 75% - % of Clinical Status PURPLE incidents responded to by a patient carrying vehicle in 18 minutes 59 seconds or less.
- KPI Target 2023 45% - % of Clinical Status RED incidents responded to by a patient carrying vehicle in 18 minutes 59 seconds or less.





## **PQ/2164/24**

The table below details the average response times for the Western Region – which includes Co. Leitrim – during 2023:

MONTH 2023	Total number of Clinical Status PURPLE incidents responded to by a patient-carrying vehicle in 18 minutes and 59 seconds or less	* % of Clinical Status 1 PURPLE incidents responded to by a patient-carrying vehicle in 18 minutes and 59 seconds or less	Total number of Clinical Status 1 RED incidents responded to by a patient-carrying vehicle in 18 minutes and 59 seconds or less	* % of Clinical Status 1 RED incidents responded to by a patient-carrying vehicle in 18 minutes and 59 seconds or less
January	95	69%	1573	50%
February	62	71%	1427	51%
March	68	69%	1538	47%
April	72	64%	1505	48%
May	70	67%	1582	50%
June	77	69%	1556	48%
July	77	64%	1487	46%
August	79	60%	1476	45%
September	72	62%	1499	47%
October	93	70%	1613	47%
November	70	63%	1504	48%
December	96	67%	1688	44%

Table 1: No of Purple & Red calls responded to during 2023

## **PQ/2161/24**

NAS operates under the HSE's 'Performance Accountability Framework', which sets out the means by which the service is held to account for its performance in relation to access to services and the quality and safety of those services.

The HSE's National Ambulance Service (NAS) operates from over 100 locations throughout Ireland and its' services are delivered by over 2,000 staff members.

NAS adopts a detailed and analysis based approach focussed on predicting and planning the capacity required into the future to continue to provide high quality, safe and person centred emergency and urgent care services against the background of ever-rising demand.

In 2023 NAS received approval for 55 new paramedic posts. Additional rostered lines were created nationally based on the above.

## **PQ/2166/24**

A response to this PQ is included in Table 1 above.





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I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

William Merriman  
Director of Operations  
National Ambulance Service

