



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

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Ref: WM/REPDR/25/02872

23 April 2025

Deputy Jennifer Whitmore
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

Re REPDR /25/02872

Deputy Jennifer Whitmore asked the Minister for Health for an update on the provision of a 24-hour, 7-days-per-week ambulance service for Arklow and Baltinglass; if this service will be operational in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. [33761/24]

Dear Deputy Whitmore,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) National Ambulance Service (NAS) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above representation which you submitted to the Minister for response.

Emergency ambulance cover is provided from Baltinglass 24 hrs a day, every day of the week with the exception of the period from 7 am to 7 pm on Monday. NAS has secured additional funding in National Service Plan 2025 to assign an additional resource to Baltinglass in order to fill the gap in service from Baltinglass on Monday. This change will take place later in the year (Quarter 3.)

Emergency ambulance cover is provided from Arklow 24 hrs a day, every day of the week with the exception of the period from 7 am to 7 pm on Tuesday. NAS has secured additional funding in National Service Plan 2025 to assign an additional resource to Arklow in order to fill the gap in service from Arklow on Tuesdays. This change will take place later in the year (Quarter 3.)

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 patients' clinical need. This does mean that at particularly busy periods lower acuity calls will be liable to experience a longer wait for an ambulance.

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.

I trust this information is of assistance.





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Yours sincerely,

David Clarke
Head of Service
Head of Integrated Service Operations (East)
National Ambulance Service

Dated 23 April 2025

