



Oifig anStiúrthóir
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta,

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

Office of the Director
National Ambulance Service

Rivers Building, Tallaght Cross
Tallaght, Dublin, D24 XNP2

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Ref: RM/PQ/19595/2025/05/09

14 May 2025

Deputy Michael Cahill TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ25/19595

**2175. To ask the Minister for Health to prioritise the provision of an ambulance base in Killorglin, County Kerry (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Cahill. [19595/25]*

Dear Deputy Cahill,

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 is one of the State's Principal Emergency Services (PES) serving the population of Ireland, i.e., over five million people. An independent demand and capacity analysis conducted in 2022, projected 999 activity to increase by up to 107% over the 10-year period from 2017 to 2027.

Demand via the 999 service has increased by 25% since 2019, with growth in 2024 up by 9% on 2023. The need for additional capacity is a matter of public record https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/debates/debate/committee_of_public_accounts/2021-09-23/3/, whereby it was confirmed by the HSE (CEO and COO) in September 2021, that NAS had a then capacity deficit of 90 emergency ambulance crews daily (1,080 WTE).

The matter was the subject of further public record in February 2023 https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/committee/dail/33/joint_committee_on_health/submissions/2023/2023-02-22_opening-statement-robert-morton-director-national-ambulance-service-nas_en.pdf following the finalisation of a NAS Workforce Plan 2022-2028 in June 2022, underpinned by an independent demand and capacity analysis, which identified the need for considerable growth in the workforce across the country, both now and into the future (2,579 additional WTE by 2028).

The WTE Control Limit for NAS in 2025 is up to 2656 WTE which represents a growth of over 500 WTE since 2019.





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In comparison to NAS, the Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust has 4,079 WTE <https://senedd.wales/media/kradakae/gen-ld16576-e.pdf> to serve 3.1m people (2021 Census), while the Scottish Ambulance Service has 5,837 WTE <https://www.scottishambulance.com/publications/annual-report-and-accounts/> to serve 5.4m people (2022 Census).

In this context, NAS will continue to submit annual estimates proposals for consideration to both plan for growth in services from existing locations and in due course, plan for services at new locations, where the most recent Demand and Capacity Analysis (2022) identifies and prioritises such developments.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Rob Moriarty, our General Manager responsible for NAS Operations in the South West Region.

In the meantime, I hope you find this information helpful

Yours sincerely

Robert Morton
Director
National Ambulance Service

