



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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27 February 2025

Deputy Peadar Tóibín
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ25/5321

To ask the Minister for Health the reason HSE public health has not paid for the emerging threat response team to date; and the reason the National Ambulance Service is removing the staff from the emerging threat response team. - Peadar Tóibín

Dear Deputy Tóibín,

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 response.

The HSE' National Service Plan 2023 provided for 200 WTE (Primary Notifications) to establish an Emerging Threat Team in NAS with a view to providing a national capability to respond to support the HSE' Public Health response, if required in the future.

While 84 WTE were in post as of May 2023, recruitment ceased as the funds to support the 200 WTE (Primary Notifications) had not materialised. The 84 WTE in place has now reduced to 28 WTE, in large part due to staff seeking other funded positions within NAS.

5 more are due to commence training as Paramedics in 2025 with the remaining 24 now the subject of engagement with the relevant trade unions on redeployment into vacancies within our Intermediate Care Service.

Yours sincerely

Robert Morton
Director
National Ambulance Service

