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RM/PQ40477/25

31st July 2025

Deputy Michael Cahill TD Dáil Éireann

Leinster House Dublin 2

PQ40477/25 To ask the Minister for Health to provide an ambulance base in Killorglin, County Kerry as a matter of priority; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Michael Cahill

Dear Deputy Cahill,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) National Ambulance Service (NAS) has been asked to respond directly to you regarding your recent Parliamentary Question to the Minister.

Thank you for your continued interest in Pre-Hospital Emergency Care in South Kerry. Further to my previous responses to PQs 30893 and 30967 (26 June 2025), I can confirm that crews and vehicles from the NAS Southwest Intermediate Care Service remain on track to commence standby operations in South Kerry from 18 August, bringing a fourth patient-transporting resource to the area.

Regrettably, efforts to establish a Deployment Point in Killorglin prior to that date have been unsuccessful:

- The HSE facility 'Ard Alainn' (Mental Health Services) was assessed but ruled out due to insufficient parking for a 4.3-ton ambulance, without impacting existing access.
- A formal request to the Defence Forces for limited access to their Killorglin premises (to allow use of rest areas and toilet facilities between calls) was declined.

I acknowledge the disappointment this may cause in the Iveragh region. Please be assured that I remain committed to establishing a presence in Killorglin and will continue to work with both NAS and HSE Estates to identify a suitable location. In the interim, the additional resource will deploy from Killamey.

Separately, Killarney remains the operational priority for Emergency Ambulance (EA) expansion in Kerry, with strong service data supporting the case for a second daytime EA in the town due to its potential to deliver the greatest operational benefit.

Kind regards,

Robert Moriarty General Manager National Ambulance Service (South-West) 086 4647930

