

Oifig anStiúrthóir An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta,

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Ref: RM/PQ25/10598/25/04/08

8 April 2025

Deputy Ged Nash Dáil Éireann Leinster House Dublin 2

PQ10598/25

To ask the Minister for Health to provide details of grant schemes available through her Department and the HSE to support frontline community-based health responders such as Irish Red Cross branches to access support for investment in equipment etc; and if she will make a statement on the matter. - Ged Nash

Dear Deputy Nash,

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 a response.

The Irish Red Cross and other similar organisations such as the Order of Malta and St Johns Ambulance are registered charities which fall under the responsibility of the Charities Regulator. The Minister for Community and Rural Development has overall responsibility for the Charities Regulator and the charities sector.

Funding for maintenance, fuel, equipment & Vehicles etc. for organisations such as the Irish Red Cross, may be available through the HSE National Lottery Grant Scheme.

CLAR funding which provides funding for small scale projects in rural areas may also be an option - details of which can be accessed below: <u>https://www.gov.ie/en/news/83511-clar-2024-87-million-funding-for-community-sports-and-island-facilities/</u>

Local branches of the Irish Red Cross and other similar charitable bodies can also consider engaging with their local NAS Community Engagement Officer who may be able to provide helpful information in relation to further supports that might be available such as training and equipment. The contact email address is <u>cfr@hse.ie</u>

I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Robert Morton Director National Ambulance Service

