



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/PQ25/10901/2025/04/02

2 April 2025

Deputy David Cullinane TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ25/10901**

*To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 13 of 3 October 2024, to provide a breakdown of the €16 million additional expenditure allocation announced for the National Ambulance Service; the purpose of the allocation; the details of intended spend by line item, in tabular form; if it was the intention that funding would be allocated for advanced paramedic training as distinct from community specialist paramedic training; if she is satisfied with the fact that there is no provision in the HSE service plan for 2025 for students to commence on the MSc in Specialist Paramedic Practice (Advanced) in 2025; and if she will make a statement on the matter. - David Cullinane [10901/25]*

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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.

Formal approval for 180 new service development posts is expected to take effect from July 2025. The Part Year funding for 2025 (€8m) is expected to increase to full year funding effect in 2026 (€16m).

At this stage, I can confirm the following NAS services or transformation programmes are prioritised within the proposed developments, which still remain subject to formal approval, approval of a number of new grade codes, resolution of an industrial relations dispute before the WRC and the HSE's employment control arrangements:

Service/Programme	WTE*
Emergency Care Service	77
Urgent Care Service	30
Intermediate Care Service	24
Critical Care and Retrieval Service	3
Staff Wellbeing Service	3
Tertiary Education (Cork)	10
Staff Professional Development (Regional)	4
Specialist Practice Development	3
NAS Driver Training School	5
Quality and Patient Safety	5
Organisational Re-Design	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>180</b>

\*Subject to change





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Recruitment will not commence until such time as formal approval to proceed has been received.

A significant number of posts will require appointees to enter either a BS. (Hon) in Paramedic Studies or an MSc. in Specialist Paramedic Practice (Community) programme. It is expected that any new appointees will commence employment and/or training before the end of 2025.

Due to an ongoing WRC related process, there are no plans or educational capacity available in 2025 to commence an MSc in Specialist Paramedic Practice (Advanced).

However, subject to the resolution of the current industrial dispute before the WRC, and the expansion of tertiary educational capacity in 2025, a recruitment campaign is planned to commence in 2025 to select suitable candidates to commence an MSc in Specialist Paramedic Practice (Advanced) in 2026 who will be appointed as Specialist Paramedics on completion.

I hope you find this information helpful

Yours sincerely

Robert Morton  
Director  
National Ambulance Service

