



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Oibríochtaí
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta
Bloc 4, Lárionad Gnó,
Tulach Mhór,
Co. Uíbh Fhailí, R35 FH59

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Ref: IB/ PQ22350-1/25

21st May 2025

Deputy Jennifer Whitmore
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ22350/25

To ask the Minister for Health the staffing breakdown of each ambulance station across County Wicklow, by the number of EMTs, the number of paramedics, and the number of advanced paramedics per station, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Jennifer Whitmore

PQ22351/25

To ask the Minister for Health the reason County Wicklow was excluded from the National Ambulance Service expression of interest to train new advanced paramedics; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Jennifer Whitmore

Dear Deputy Whitmore,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) National Ambulance Service (NAS) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The NAS operates a dynamic model of ambulance deployment. This is in line with international best practice and allows the NAS to prioritise resource allocation to the highest acuity calls that require an immediate emergency response. Dynamic deployment also allows the NAS to categorise non-serious or non-life-threatening calls, and to provide a resource appropriate to the patient's clinical need. This does mean that at particularly busy periods lower acuity calls will be liable to experience a longer wait for an ambulance. This has become more of a challenge in recent years with the continuous growth in activity volume.

NAS also operates under the HSE's 'Performance Accountability Framework', which sets out the means by which the service is held to account for its performance in relation to access to services and the quality and safety of those services.

PQ 22350

Co. Wicklow currently has 3 x ambulance bases located in Wicklow, Arklow and Baltinglass. Table 1 gives the no of WTE for the stations in Co. Wicklow.





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Station	No of WTE	Advanced Paramedic	Paramedic	Paramedic Intern	EMTs
Wicklow	24	5	13	6	0
Arklow	11	3	6	2	0
Baltinglass	10	0	7	3	0

PQ 22351

NAS are currently running a recruitment campaign available to all staff to train as a Specialist Paramedic (Advanced). The EOI for this campaign does not exclude any eligible NAS staff member to apply for same.

The successful candidate will be allocated or re-assigned to an ambulance station within 45km of their home address. The proposed locations set out in the AP application are the prioritised locations based on the current position as known to HSE Regions at that time. Successful candidates will not emerge from the Master' programme until January 2027, hence, some priority locations may be subject to re-prioritisation in the future.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Ian Brennan
General Manager
National Ambulance Service

