



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

Office of the Director of Operations
National Ambulance Service
Block 4, Central Business Park,
Tullamore,
Co. Offaly R35 FH59

www.hse.ie
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)

t 057 9357696
e william.merriman@hse.ie

WM/ PQ 53687/25

21st October 2025

Deputy Pádraig O'Sullivan TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 53687/25

To ask the Minister for Health the ambulance response times in Cork North Central; if the response times are meeting those as set out by HIQA; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Pádraig O'Sullivan

Dear Deputy O'Sullivan

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 for response.

The NAS report monthly on PURPLE (Echo) and RED (Delta) call activity, category AS1 (life threatening cardiac or respiratory arrest or life threatening other than cardiac or respiratory arrest) calls. Response times per county or CHO are not deemed a Key Performance Indicator (KPI) for the Health Information Quality Authority (HIQA), the Department of Health (DoH) or the National Ambulance Service. Therefore, reporting and publishing of response times on a county by county or CHO basis is not a requirement.

In 2025, the HSE National Service Plan set national aggregate Key Performance Indicator (KPI) targets for emergency calls as follows:

- PURPLE (Echo, life-threatening cardiac or respiratory arrest) (75% in 18 minutes, 59 seconds)
- RED (Delta, life-threatening illness or injury, other than cardiac or respiratory arrest) (45% in 18 minutes, 59 seconds).





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Average response times to “PURPLE” and “RED” calls for the South West to date in 2025 are as follows:

South West	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
% of clinical status 1 PURPLE incidents responded to by a NAS patient-carrying vehicle in 18 minutes and 59 seconds or less	75.7%	66.7%	65.9%	62.8%	75.0%	73.4%	76.4%	69.7%
% of clinical status 1 RED incidents responded to by a NAS patient-carrying vehicle in 18 minutes and 59 seconds or less	42.0%	48.2%	50.6%	47.1%	47.5%	45.9%	41.8%	44.3%

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

William Merriman
Director of Operations
National Ambulance Service

