



19 January 2023

Email:

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request No: AD/IG/01(2)/4166-22

Subject: Absence due to mental health issues

Request:	Date Received:	19/10/2022
	Date of Monitoring:	20/10/2022
	Date of Response:	19/01/2023

Thank you for your request for information received on 19 October 2022 which was dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) Health and Social Care Trust has now completed its search for the information you requested and a Trust response is detailed below.

Question 1

In terms of staff absences, how many hours have been attributed to absence due to mental health issues (anxiety, stress, depression or another psychiatric illness) from 1st September, 2021 to 1st September 2022?

Answer 1

Based on absence hours lost from the Human Resources, Payroll, Travel and Subsistence System (HRPTS) the number of hours lost due to mental health absence from 01 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 was 112,074.20 hours.

Question 2

In terms of staff absences, how many hours have been attributed to absence due to mental health issues (anxiety, stress, depression or another psychiatric illness) from 1st September, 2020 to 1st September 2021?

Answer 2

Based on absence hours lost from HRPTS the number of hours lost due to mental health absence from 01 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 was 81,982.36 hours.

I hope this fully assists you. If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter.



Textphone: 02890 400871 □ www.nias.hscni.net

In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Director of Planning, Performance and Corporate Services, Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) HSC Trust, Site 30, Knockbracken Healthcare Park, Saintfield Road, Belfast, BT8 8SG.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request, you may make a complaint under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the Trust has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act.

You can write to the Information Commissioner at:

Website: ni@ico.org.uk
Post: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE SK9 5AF
Telephone: 028 9027 8757 or 0303 123 1114 (Belfast based Office)

In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out. However the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that NIAS replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ <http://www.niamb.co.uk>. Personal details in respect of your request will have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance