



14 January 2025

Email:

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request No: 31417-24
Subject: Double Crew Ambulances Data
Date Received: 14/08/2024

Thank you for your request for information received on 14th August which was dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) Health and Social Care Trust has now completed its search for the information you requested and that is detailed below.

FOI QUESTION(S)	ANSWER(S)																																																						
The number of DCA Ambulances required per station, and per division, in NIAS for day shift, and night shift to effectively implement the Clinical response model (CRM).	<p>The demand and capacity analysis showed that, in order to achieve the CRM targets, 13,670 weekly hours of DCA cover would need to be provided across the region. This figure was not broken down per station, division or shift.</p> <p>This modelling was conducted based on the operating environment of 2019, which is no longer the case, and therefore the benefits would currently not be met by deploying these hours. This is due to a range of factors, including hospital turnaround delays.</p>																																																						
The number of DCA currently funded for in each category/ current "core" level.	<p>The information is supplied on a Division basis only and not by individual Station. Detailing DCA numbers at this level creates potential that individuals may be identifiable and also could potentially compromise station security. Across all NIAS Operational areas, there is no Station at which the</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Division</th> <th>No of Stations</th> <th>Mon</th> <th>Tue</th> <th>Wed</th> <th>Thu</th> <th>Fri</th> <th>Sat</th> <th>Sun</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>South</td> <td>6</td> <td>11</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>12</td> <td>11</td> <td>10</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seast</td> <td>7</td> <td>13</td> <td>13</td> <td>13</td> <td>12</td> <td>11</td> <td>11</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>West</td> <td>6</td> <td>12</td> <td>12</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>13</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>North</td> <td>10</td> <td>20</td> <td>19</td> <td>19</td> <td>18</td> <td>18</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Belfast</td> <td><5*</td> <td>8</td> <td>8</td> <td>8</td> <td>8</td> <td>8</td> <td>8</td> <td>8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>DCA level on a day or night shift is funded for five crews or more</p> <p>Day Shifts</p>	Division	No of Stations	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	South	6	11	11	12	12	11	10	10	Seast	7	13	13	13	12	11	11	11	West	6	12	12	11	12	13	13	12	North	10	20	19	19	18	18	18	19	Belfast	<5*	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Division	No of Stations	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun																																															
South	6	11	11	12	12	11	10	10																																															
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West	6	12	12	11	12	13	13	12																																															
North	10	20	19	19	18	18	18	19																																															
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Division	No of Stations	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
South	6	9	9	9	9	10	10	10
Seast	7	9	9	9	9	11	11	11
West	6	10	10	10	10	12	12	12
North	10	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Belfast	<5*	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

Night Shifts

The number of RRVs required per station and division the effectively implement the CRM.	<p>The demand and capacity analysis showed that, in order to achieve the CRM targets, 2,472 weekly hours of DCA cover would need to be provided across the region. This figure was not broken down per station, division or shift.</p> <p>This modelling was conducted based on an operating environment of 2019, which is no longer the case, and therefore the benefits would currently not be met by deploying these hours. This is due to a range of factors, including hospital turnaround delays.</p>
The number currently funded for/ current "core" level.	<p>In all Divisions, the number of funded RRV cover is as follows</p> <p>Day Shift (finishing before 20:00hrs) = <5*</p> <p>Late Shift (finishing before 00:00hrs) = <5*</p>

*To protect the privacy and confidentiality of individuals and maintain operational security, we report small numbers as "<5" rather than exact figures. This approach aligns with our duty to minimise the risk of unintended identification, especially in instances where data sets are small or could be linked to other publicly available information. This measure is consistent with data protection principles under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I hope the above fully assists you.

Please note that, under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations, if you wish to publish or otherwise use this information besides for your own means, you will need to seek our permission to do so.

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.

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:

Email: ni@ico.org.uk
Website: [ICO Website](#)
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 @ <https://nias.hscni.net> Personal details in respect of your request will have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Yours sincerely

(not signed – issued by email)

Information Governance Team