



24 January 2025

Email:

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request No: 30364-24

Subject: Safeguarding, Trade Unions, Meeting Minutes and Financial

Date Received: 06/08/2024

Thank you for your request for information received on 6th August 2024 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.

1- The NIAS Adult Safeguarding Policy.	1. Please see enclosed 'NIAS Safeguarding Policy AUG 2021 (002). REDACTED'
2- The NIAS Adult Safeguarding Procedure.	2. Please see enclosed 'Safeguarding Referral Process UPDATE 2023 Redacted'
3 - List of all recognised Trade Unions	3. Unite NIPSA Unison GMB
4- How many employees in NIAS work solely as Trade Union reps or officials?	4. Currently 3 in temporary positions
5- How many formal grievances submitted in years 2020-2024? Break down each year.	5. 2020 – 28 cases 2021 – 20 cases 2022 – 25 cases 2023 – 21 cases (not including x2 Temporary Injury Allowance appeals) 2024 – 40 cases (not including x3 Temporary Injury Allowance appeals)
6- How many formal grievance meetings took place in years 2020-2024? Break down each year.	6. A formal grievance meeting would occur in each case listed above in Answer 5. However other formal meetings may take place in a grievance, but this information is not held centrally or collated.
7- How many meetings have been held between NIAS management side and trade union staff side in the years	7. JCNC 2020 – Record not available 2021 – 3 2022 – 3



<p>2020-2024? Break down each year.</p>	<p>2023 – 4 2024 – 2</p> <p>HR JCG 2020 – Record not available 2021 – 1 2022 – 3 2023 – 2 2024 – 2</p> <p>OPS JCG 2020 – 1 2021 – 1 2022 – 2 2023 – 0 2024 - 2</p> <p>The information above relates to formal HR and Consultive meetings however it is important to note that other meetings regularly occur and take place on an ad hoc basis across Directorates and functions that are not planned or recorded centrally eg. Health and Safety Committee</p>
<p>8- Minutes of meeting between Chief Executive Bloomfield and MLA Colin McGrath at Stormont Buildings.</p>	<p>8. Mr Bloomfield met with Colin McGrath MLA on 11 April 2024 as he does with a wide range of elected representatives to discuss challenges facing the ambulance service. No minutes were taken.</p>
<p>9- Minutes of April 2024 meeting between NIAS Senior Management Team and DOH Deputy Secretaries Mr Wilkinson and Mr Toogood.</p>	<p>9. The NIAS Senior Management Team meet regularly with senior DoH officers to discuss a wide range of issues relevant to the Ambulance Service. No minutes were taken at that meeting.</p>
<p>10- Total payment to any companies for years 2020-2024 that provide ambulance services. List the companies that you use.</p>	<p>10. FY 2019-20 £ 5,243,721 FY 2020-21 £10,145,689 FY 2021-22 £ 9,735,648 FY 2022-23 £ 9,234,546 FY 2023-24 £ 7,377,931</p> <p>BELFAST PRIVATE AMBULANCE BRITISH RED CROSS COASTAL CORE LTD EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSFER SOLUTIONS EMT LIMITED FESTIMED LTD</p>

	<p>GREEN LIGHT TRANSFERS LIMITED JACE AMBULANCE LTD J&K COACHES LTD LYNCH COACH HIRE & DERG TAXIS NI SPORTS MEDICS LTD 955 SAFETY LTD ORDER OF MALTA IRELAND BALLYMENA UNIT PATIENT DISCHARGE SERVICES LTD PROPAMEDICS LTD PULSE EVENTS MEDICAL SERVICES NI LTD SALUS MEDICAL ST JOHN AMBULANCE NI ERNE VILLA VALUE CABS LIMITED WATER & RESCUE TRAINING WESTERN AMBULANCE SERVICE NI LTD</p>
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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