



5 February 2025

Email:

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request No: 35136-24
Subject: NIAS Frontline Staff and Access NI Checks
Date Received: 17/12/2024

Thank you for your request for information received on 17th December 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. Are frontline NIAS emergency ambulance staff subject to Access NI checks?	1. Yes, on receipt of a conditional offer of employment, applicants for NIAS emergency ambulance posts are required to undergo an Access NI check as part of the pre-employment checks.
1a. If yes, please advise the level e.g. Basic, Standard, Enhanced, Enhanced including checks against the barred lists.	1a. The level of the Access NI check is enhanced.
2. Are frontline NIAS Paramedic staff subject to Access NI checks?	2. Yes, on receipt of a conditional offer of employment, applicants for Paramedic posts are required to undergo an Access NI check as part of the pre-employment checks.
2a. If yes, please advise the level e.g. Basic, Standard, Enhanced, Enhanced including checks against the barred lists.	2a. The level requires compliance with Enhanced Disclosure Certification and Access NI.
3. Are NIAS staff employed solely on patient transfer roles subject to Access NI checks?	3. Yes, on receipt of a conditional offer of employment, applicants for jobs which involve specific patient transfer duties e.g. Ambulance Care Attendant, are required to undergo an Access NI check as part of the pre-employment checks.
3a. If yes, please advise the level e.g., Basic, Standard, Enhanced including checks against the barred lists.	3a. The level requires compliance with Enhanced Disclosure Certification and Access NI.
4. Where NIAS sub-contract any of the above roles from private (for profit) companies or not-for-profit organisations	4. Yes, were NIAS sub-contract any of the above roles from private (for profit) or not for profit organisations NIAS require that they



such as SJANI, British Red Cross etc., do you require that they ensure their staff are subject to Access NI checks?	ensure that their staff are subject to Access NI checks.
4a. If yes, please advise the level e.g. Basic, Standard, Enhanced, Enhanced including checks against the barred lists	4a. The Framework Agreement for Non-Emergency Transport Service for use of independent providers requires compliance with Enhanced Disclosure Certification and Access NI.

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