



13 October 2023

Email:

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST**

**Request No:** 17717-23  
**Subject:** NIAS Organisation Structure  
**Date Received:** 04/08/2023  
**Date of Monitoring:** 04/09/2023

Thank you for your request for information received on 4 August 2023 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.

**Questions**

A full list of your Senior Management Team  
A full list of your IT Team  
A list of staff involved in digital or transformation.  
Please include Name, Job Title and Email Address.  
I would like you to provide this information in PDF or XLS format.

**Answer**

Please refer to the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) website which provides details of NIAS Senior Managers at Director level.

Please see attached is the current ICT organisation structure.

With regard to digital and transformation, I would confirm the following roles:

- Assistant Director of ICT x1
- Head of Transformation x1 (Organisational Strategy and Improvement – not limited to ICT)
- Project Development and Implementation Managers x5 (Organisational Strategy and Improvement – not limited to ICT)

At this time, we have not released the names of the above referenced or staff with the ICT structure and the reasons for this are detailed below.

Section 40 of the FOI act relates to personal information.



Personal data of a third party is exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 if its disclosure to a member of the public would contravene any of the Data Protection Principles. The information which is the subject of this exemption are the names of member of NIAS staff associated with the posts in our ICT organisation chart.

NIAS considers that disclosure of staff details would breach the first Data Protection Principle which requires personal data to be “processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner”. Article 5(1) of the UK GDPR says: Personal data shall be: (a) processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject (‘lawfulness, fairness, transparency’).

The ICO’s guidance on Article 5(1) of the GDPR state: “Processing of personal data must always be fair as well as lawful. If any aspect of your processing is unfair you will be in breach of this principle – even if you can show that you have a lawful basis for the processing. In general, fairness means that you should only handle personal data in ways that people would reasonably expect and not use it in ways that have unjustified adverse effects on them. You need to stop and think not just about how you can use personal data, but also about whether you should. Assessing whether you are processing information fairly depends partly on how you obtain it. In particular, if anyone is deceived or misled when the personal data is obtained, then this is unlikely to be fair. In order to assess whether or not you are processing personal data fairly, you must consider generally how it affects the interests of the people concerned – as a group and individually.

Personal data is information which relates to a living individual who can be identified from the requested information or from a combination of that information and other information know to the data controller.

As stated above, in this case the personal data which NIAS considers exempt are the names of members of NIAS staff associated with the posts shown in the ICT organisation chart.

NIAS considers that some key, senior post holders and decision makers in the Trust can reasonably expect that their identities are disclosed into the public domain in appropriate circumstances, however more junior member of staff would not. The balance between the legitimate public interest in disclosure and the rights and freedoms of the individuals concerned in this particular case, supports a conclusion that disclosure of their details would not be fair or lawful, on the basis of the grounds set out above.

NIAS believes that disclosure of the personal information redacted would give rise to actionable breach of the first data protection principle, which states that personal information must be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner. The conditions for processing personal information are largely based on the “necessity” to process personal information and in this case NIAS does not consider the disclosure of their details to be necessary.

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](mailto: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 @ <http://www.niamb.co.uk>. Personal details in respect of your request will have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Yours sincerely

*(not signed – issued by email)*

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**Information Governance Team**