8 October 2025

Email:

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request No: 43193-25

Subject: Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrests in Private Residences (Last 3 Years)

Date Received: 13/08/2025

Thank you for your request for information received on 13th August 2025 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)
1. The total number of OHCA incidents that occurred in private residential settings (e.g. home, flat, care home, or similar).	Please see attached dataset.
2. Of these, how many incidents involved only one other person present (i.e. the individual who made the emergency call)?	This information is not recorded by NIAS.
3. In those incidents, how often was a defibrillator (AED) retrieved and used prior to ambulance arrival?	Please see attached dataset.
4. Where available, how many cases recorded that an AED could not be used because: ○ (a) the bystander was unable to leave the patient to retrieve it (e.g. CPR in progress), or ○ (b) an AED was unavailable, inaccessible, or non-operational.	This information is not recorded by NIAS.
5. If possible, how many incidents noted that an attempt was made to retrieve an AED but it could not be brought to the patient in time to be used?	This information is not recorded by NIAS.
6. If this information is not centrally recorded, could it be extracted from: • CAD data (computer-aided dispatch) • 999 call transcripts • ePCRs (electronic patient care records)	The Trust would confirm that it holds aspects of the information you have requested, however, Section 12 of the FOI Act provides an exemption from a public authority's obligation to comply

• Or relevant narrative fields completed by attending clinicians?	with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the appropriate limit. It is currently estimated that to locate, extract and collate the information requested from multiple systems would take approximately 964 hours. Therefore the Trust is not required to provide a response to this element of your request.

The Trust has a duty to protect patient confidentiality, in line with this duty the figure <5 has been provided where the figures are very low. This is because of the potential risk of identification of an individual. The Trust has taken into account the fact that all information disclosed in response to an FOI is disclosed to the 'world at large' and will be published on the Trust website.

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.

If you require an internal review to be undertaken, please request this via the email address: information.governance@nias.hscni.net

Or submit via

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, 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)

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

This response has been prepared for disclosure log publication. Only minor editorial or redaction amendments have been made for clarity and compliance with data protection legislation. The substantive content is identical to that provided to the requestor and the original issued version remains the authoritative record.