



15 May 2025

Email:

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST**

**Request No:** 38455-25  
**Subject:** NIAS Patient public involvement and engagement (PPIE)  
**Date Received:** 31/03/2025

Thank you for your request for information received on 31<sup>st</sup> March 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)
Does your NHS Trust/Board have an executive board where health research strategy for the hospital/s is set? e.g. a Research and Innovation Board or other relevant high-level board.	Yes, the Trust has a Research and Development Oversight Group
If yes, is there a PPIE (patient public involvement engagement) representative on this board with the specific remit to provide insights into research agenda setting from the perspective of a patient with lived experience of health issues or as a member of the public/community? [I am not referring to the presence of a lay chair].	Not currently
Is there a PPIE advisory structure (e.g. board, committee, panel) which provides PPIE insights to inform the work of the executive board? (not within individual study groups- I refer to high level feedback into your research strategy meetings).	Yes, the Trust have a PPIE separate group - the Research Public Involvement Committee (RPIC) which currently has 5 PPIE members.
If yes to question 2, 3, 4 or 5, please provide the most recent minutes/agenda with a list of members with designated roles/remits (not names).	Most recent agenda and meeting notes from last RPIC meeting attached. No designated roles within the group, other than the R&D Manager and PPIE members.
Are PPIE representatives remunerated?	Not currently
Do you require PPIE representatives to do any training? If yes, please specify e.g. NIHR training or in house-training.	Initial in-house training provided as part of induction. They can also access this training if they want, but not a requirement: <a href="#">Building Research Partnerships - Engage</a>
I realise that some of this information may already be available. However, I was unable to locate it. So, if it is, please provide me with a link to the data.	No links to provide

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](http://ico.org.uk)  
**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**

*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.*