



8 April 2026

Email:

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request No: 47373-26
Subject: NHS chaperone policies, training and reporting
Date Received: 17th March 2023 (Tuesday Bank Holiday)

Thank you for your request for information received on 18th March 2026 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) Current chaperone policy or policies relating the use of formal and informal chaperones.	Attached.
2) Associated procedures & guidelines including: a) Guidance on how the offer, acceptance, or refusal of a chaperone must be recorded in patient notes. b) Guidance on how the sex of the chaperone is recorded.	Please see attached policy.
3) If your policy/procedures/guidelines have been withdrawn, please provide: a) the most recent version. b) the date it was placed under review or withdrawn. c) the communications with staff when it was put under review or withdrawn. d) the timetable for development and approval of any replacement policy e) details of internal and external consultation lists.	Not applicable.
4) If not included in the policy/procedures/guidelines, please also disclose: a) training and competency standards for staff acting as formal chaperones. b) training description and provision for chaperones (eg online, in person, what organisations delivers the training and outline).	Please see attached policy.
5) Audit reports, quality assurance reviews, compliance monitoring, and management and/or board reports relating to chaperoning 2024 to date.	No specific audits are conducted in respect of Chaperone Policy, issues related to staff and patients are normally



	<p>not separated into these specific categories and may be referenced as a clinical /patient safety issue. As per the Freedom of Information Act 2000 public authorities do not have to create new information to respond to your request. They are not required to answer questions unless they already hold the answer as recorded information.</p>
<p>6) Related equality impact assessments (EIAs) if separate</p>	<p>NIAS do not have this information recorded. As per the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 1 public authorities do not have to create new information to respond to your request. They are not required to answer questions unless they already hold the answer as recorded information.</p>
<p>7) Datix reports: a) Number of Datix reports raised related to chaperoning in 2024, 2025 and 2026 Jan & Feb, by sex of patient and chaperone & definition of sex field in Datix. b) If you record this data by gender, please disclose the Number of Datix reports raised related to chaperoning in 2024, 2025 and 2026 Jan & Feb, by gender of patient and chaperone and definition of gender field in Datix.</p>	<p>Clarification sought from applicant to narrow search parameters.</p>
<p>8) Concerns: a) Number of concerns raised by chaperones, if not recorded via Datix, in 2024, 2025 and 2026 Jan & Feb, by sex of patient and chaperone & definition of sex field. b) If you record this data by gender, please disclose the number of concerns raised by chaperones in 2024, 2025 and 2026 Jan & Feb, by gender of patient and chaperone and definition of gender field.</p>	
<p>9) Complaints: a) Number of complaints raised related to chaperoning in 2024, 2025 and 2026 Jan & Feb, by sex of patient and chaperone & definition of sex field in your complaints system. b) If you record this data by gender, please disclose the number of complaints raised related to chaperoning in 2024, 2025 and 2026 Jan & Feb, by gender of patient and chaperone and definition of gender field in your complaints system. c) Number of Freedom to Speak Up reports related to chaperones in 2024, 2025 and 2026 Jan & Feb by sex of the reporter. d) If you record this data by gender, please disclose the number of cFTSU reports related to chaperoning in 2024, 2025 and 2026 Jan & Feb, by gender of the reporter.</p>	<p>None.</p>

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](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)

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

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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.