



16 April 2026

Email:

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request No: 47386-26
Subject: HART Vehicle Roles and Equipment
Date Received: 18/03/2026

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)
<p>1. Vehicle Types, Make and Model</p> <p>The make, model, and base vehicle type for each HART vehicle in service</p> <p>Details of any specialist conversions or modifications</p> <p>The number of each vehicle type currently in operation</p>	<p>Mercedes Sprinter Van x 2 (HART Incident Response Unit)</p> <p>Bespoke internal panelling and shelving</p> <p>Nissan Navara jeep x 1</p> <p>Bespoke internal panelling and shelving</p>
<p>2. Operational Use of Vehicles</p> <p>For each vehicle type, please provide a detailed explanation of:</p> <p>Its primary operational role within HART</p> <p>The specific types of incidents it is designed to respond to (e.g., CBRN incidents, marauding terrorist attacks, water rescue, confined space rescue, urban search and rescue, etc.)</p> <p>How the vehicle is used at incidents (e.g., command support, equipment transport, casualty treatment, deployment of specialist teams)</p> <p>Any limitations or environments the vehicle is specifically designed for (e.g., off-road, urban, hazardous zones)</p>	<p>Primary role incident response</p> <p>HART capabilities – PRPS, Breathing Apparatus, HCID, Radiation USAR Safe Working at Height, Confined Space Operations Water Operations Support to Security Operations, Marauding Terrorist Attack Mountain and remote response</p> <p>Vehicles use for personnel and equipment transport.</p> <p>Vehicles not specifically designed for off-road, urban, hazardous zones.</p>



FOI QUESTION(S)	ANSWER(S)
<p>3. Equipment Carried (detailed breakdown requested) I would like as much detail as possible regarding the equipment carried on each HART vehicle type. Please include, where possible, itemised or category-based lists covering:</p> <p>Personal protective equipment (PPE), including types of protective suits and respiratory equipment.</p> <p>Medical equipment used in hazardous or austere environments.</p> <p>Monitoring, detection, and communications equipment</p> <p>Rescue and extrication equipment (e.g., cutting tools, rope systems, water rescue equipment, lifting gear)</p> <p>Decontamination equipment and systems</p> <p>Lighting, power supply, and scene support equipment</p> <p>Any specialist or role-specific equipment unique to HART operations</p> <p>Where possible, please indicate: Which equipment is standard across all vehicles. Which equipment is specific to particular vehicle types or roles.</p>	<p>See attached list.</p> <p>Incident response units carry the same equipment.</p>
<p>4. Equipment Use and Deployment</p> <p>How equipment is deployed from the vehicles during incidents</p> <p>Whether vehicles are configured for rapid deployment (e.g., pre-packed modules, grab bags, or role-specific loadouts)</p> <p>Any distinctions between vehicles in terms of equipment loadout and operational readiness</p>	<p>No specific arrangements.</p>
<p>5. Vehicle Configuration and Storage</p> <p>General layout and storage systems used within HART vehicles.</p> <p>How equipment is organised to support operational use.</p> <p>Crew capacity and how personnel interact with the vehicle during deployments.</p>	<p>Mercedes Sprinter Van - Crew capacity 3 (standard crewing 2 HART staff)</p> <p>No specific equipment storage / deployment arrangements</p> <p>Nissan Navara jeep - Crew capacity 2 (standard crewing 1 HART staff)</p> <p>No specific equipment storage / deployment arrangements.</p>

FOI QUESTION(S)	ANSWER(S)
<p>6. Standards and Guidance</p> <p>Whether NIAS HART vehicles and equipment follow national NHS HART specifications or locally determined standards</p> <p>Any guidance documents or frameworks used to define vehicle roles and equipment levels</p>	<p>Local vehicle design, equipment specification guided by NHS HART specifications.</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.