



5 June 2026

Email:

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request No: 50752-26

Subject: Community First Responder Information

Date Received: 31/05/2026

Thank you for your request for information received on Sunday 31st May 2026 which was dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The 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)
Number of active CFRs	458
Number of CFR groups	25
Number of incidents attended annually	1522 incidents between April 2025 – March 2026
Number of AEDs used by CFRs	NIAS do not hold this information. In line with Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act public authority are only required to provide information which it already holds in recorded form, at the time of a request. Public authorities are not required to create new information to respond to a FOI request. NIAS would advise each independent scheme is responsible for their AEDs. Most responders have an AED assigned to them.
AED manufacturer and model	NIAS do not hold this information. In line with Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act public authority are only required to provide information which it already holds in recorded form, at the time of a request. Public authorities are not required to create new information to respond to a FOI request. NIAS would advise CFR schemes are independent and use many different models of AED.



Year AEDs were purchased	NIAS do not hold this information. In line with Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act public authority are only required to provide information which it already holds in recorded form, at the time of a request. Public authorities are not required to create new information to respond to a FOI request. NIAS would advise each independent CFR scheme is responsible for recording when AEDs are purchased.
Expected replacement cycle	NIAS do not hold this information. In line with Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act public authority are only required to provide information which it already holds in recorded form, at the time of a request. Public authorities are not required to create new information to respond to a FOI request. NIAS would advise CFR scheme decision when to replace equipment.
Funding source for equipment	NIAS do not hold this information. In line with Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act public authority are only required to provide information which it already holds in recorded form, at the time of a request. Public authorities are not required to create new information to respond to a FOI request. NIAS would advise fundraising is completed by each scheme to procure equipment.
Planned replacement programmes in the next 3 years	NIAS do not hold this information. In line with Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act public authority are only required to provide information which it already holds in recorded form, at the time of a request. Public authorities are not required to create new information to respond to a FOI request. NIAS would advise the decision is made by each scheme and their committee.
Job title responsible for CFR programme management	NIAS Community Resuscitation Lead

Please provide details of how Community First Responders are trained, assessed, and supported in maintaining clinical competency within your Trust.	CFRs complete 5 modules of e-learning and a 2 day tailored training course, designed to match skills with calls attended. The main focus is on CPR and AED. Individuals must pass the e-learning modules before the 2 day course, individuals then must be deemed competent in practical assessments to pass. Individuals must pass an annual refresher course in BLS to continue receiving alerts. Ongoing support is offered through NIAS Community Resuscitation Education Officers.
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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.