



### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

**Request No:** AD-IG-01(2)-2016-96  
**Key Word:** Agenda for Change  
**Subject:** UNISON Correspondence

**Request:**           **Date Received:**           15/08/2016  
                          **Date of Monitoring:**       16/08/2016  
                          **Date of Response:**       15/12/2016

Thank you for your request for information received on 15 August 2016 and which was dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. We would also inform you that Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) Health and Social Care Trust has now completed its search for the information you requested and which is detailed below and attached for your attention.

The Trust would further apologise for the delay in the provision of the information and for your patience with this.

In December 2015 a public letter was sent to the Chief Executive of NIAS by Patricia McKeown from **Unison** in relation to a statement released by the Chief Executive in relation to Agenda for Change Banding.

#### Question 1

Can you please confirm if a reply was issued to Mrs McKeown's letter by any member of staff either employed by or representing the Trust.

#### Answer 1

Yes the Trust would confirm a response was issued.

#### Question 2

As NIAS is a government funded organisation I am requesting as a tax payer a copy of all correspondence in relation to this matter.

#### Answer 2

Please find attached a copy of a letter issued by the NIAS Trust Chief Executive to Mrs McKeown in relation to the matter.

I hope the above and attached fully assists you. 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. 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.



In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Finance and ICT Director, 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:

**Website:** [ni@ico.org.uk](mailto:ni@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 @ <http://www.niamb.co.uk>.

Personal details in respect of your request will have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Yours sincerely

***Alison Vitty***

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**Alison Vitty (Miss)**  
**CORPORATE MANAGER**