



**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST**

**Request No:** AD-IG-01(2)-2016-114  
**Key Word:** Number of Operational Qualified Staff Joining NIAS  
**Subject:** Number of Operational Qualified Staff Joining NIAS  
**Request:**           **Date Received:**           24/09/2016  
                          **Monitoring Date:**           26/09/2016  
                          **Date of Response:**       18/10/2016

Thank you for your request for information received on 24 September 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 for your attention.

**Question 1**

How many Qualified HCPC Registered Paramedics, Qualified Emergency Medical Technicians, and Qualified Ambulance Care Assistants have joined the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust from other NHS Ambulance Trusts in the UK, (Including the 10 Ambulance Trusts in England and the Ambulance Trusts in Scotland and Wales), since 1st January 2006?

Could you please give approximate month and year of joining and how many staff, also whether on a Full/Part time contract OR Bank contract.

Example:

September 2009  
2 Paramedics       Full time Contract  
East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust

January 2010  
1 Paramedic       Bank Contract  
London Ambulance Service NHS Trust

2 EMTs           Full time Contract  
London Ambulance Service NHS Trust

**Question 2**

How many operational Staff have joined the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust from the National Ambulance Service in the Republic of Ireland since 1st January 2006?



### **Question 3**

How many operational Staff have joined the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service HSC Trust from the rest of the world not including the UK and Ireland since 1st January 2006?

### **Answer 1 to 3 – Refusal Notice**

I can confirm that the Trust holds manual information that falls within the description of your requests. However, we have estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to consider your request. In line with Regulation 5 of the Fees Regulations, we have aggregated the costs of providing the information to you. The appropriate limit is specified in Regulations and for the Trust is set at £450.00/18hours. This represents the cost of one person spending 2½ working days in determining whether the Trust hold the information, locate it, retrieve it and extract it. Consequently the Trust is not obliged under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act to respond to your request. It has been identified that 472 manual personnel records would have to be reviewed. It is estimated it would cost over £975/38hours for the HR and Corporate Services Directorate to access each file, locate the information, retrieve and extract it.

If you narrow the scope of your request the Trust may be able to provide the information free of charge because it would cost less than the appropriate limit to do so, although I cannot guarantee that this will be the case. For instance if you asked for a shorter timeframe for the information we may be able to facilitate same.

However, please note that any re-formulated request I receive will be treated as a fresh request.

I am sorry that we cannot assist you at this time.

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**