



13 February 2015

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

**Request No:** AD-IG-01(2)-2015-4  
**Key Word:** Ambulance Compensation Payouts  
**Subject:** Ambulance Compensation Payouts  
**Request:** **Date Received:** 19/01/2015 **Date of Response:** 13/02/2015

Thank you for your request for information received on 19 January 2015 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**

The total amount paid out in compensation by Northern Ireland Service to Northern Ireland Ambulance service employees over the last three calendar years: 2014, 2013 and 2012. If it is easier to group this information by the last 2 financial years, including this financial year which is yet to finish, please do so.

**Answer 1**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Payments</u>
2012/2013	£31,750.00
2013/2014	£61,552.80
2014/2015*	£8,443.00

*\*Up to 31/01/2015*

**Question 2**

If the cost limit has not yet been exceeded, please provide me with details of unsettled and settled claims made by Northern Ireland Ambulance employees in 2014. Please provide me with the amount paid out in compensation (if any), a brief description of the reason for the claim and the job title of employee claimant.

**Answer 2**

Details of unsettled and settled claims made by NIAS employees in 2014 has been provided below. Please note this data has been restricted to ensure that no potential Data Protection breach could occur.

Type	Job Title	Description
Employers Liability	RRV Paramedic	Plaintiff was attending to an emergency call driving along M1 motorway at speed. The RRV vehicle being to shutter from rear end, the plaintiff touched the breaks and the vehicle began to veer from side to side and then out control causing the plaintiff to come to a halt on a grass verge.
Employers Liability	Paramedic	The plaintiff was carrying out their duties when the back door of the ambulance allegedly released from its catch and swung back and collided into them causing them to fall on to



		the ramp and suffer injuries.
Employers Liability	Paramedic	The plaintiff was walking back to the ambulance station from an ambulance which was parked in front of the station when they allegedly stumbled awkwardly on uneven ground and sustained personal injury.
Employers Liability	Paramedic Supervisor	Road Traffic Accident at or about Westlink Motorway, Belfast
Employers Liability	Emergency Medical Technician	Employee sustained needlestick injury when needle allegedly in clinical waste bag and not sharps box
Employers Liability	RRV Paramedic	Employee slipped on steps at Hospice in Londonderry area
Employers Liability	Ambulance Care Attendant	Claimant allegedly was injured when a piece of working equipment failed i.e. suspension/ramp on an ambulance
Employers Liability	Emergency Medical Technician	Allegedly electrocuted by a 240 volt force from a shore line at the start of the shift
Employers Liability	Paramedic	The plaintiff was crossing the yard at the ambulance station when the staff member's foot went into a pothole which was allegedly obscured by the presence of a puddle.
Employers Liability	Paramedic	Road Traffic Accident at/or Westlink Motorway, Belfast
Employers Liability	Paramedic	Road Traffic Accident – June 2014
Employers Liability	Station Supervisor	Plaintiff was treating a patient in the back of the ambulance when the driver allegedly braked suddenly causing staff member in the back of the ambulance, to be thrown around the ambulance, sustaining injury to his head and left side
Employers Liability	Paramedic	Employee allegedly suffered a needlestick injury where it had allegedly been disposed of in an incorrect clinical waste bag.
Employers Liability	Emergency Medical Dispatcher	Employee was driving their motorcycle into carpark. They were doing approx 10mph. The motorcycle skidded and fell landing on the employees left ankle
Employers Liability	Emergency Medical Dispatcher	Employee left there desk to go to the bathroom and fell on the floor which had recently been washed. Subsequently hurt right hand and feet particularly right foot
Employers Liability	Paramedic	RTA involving crew during April 2014

I hope the above 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.

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:** [www.informationcommissioner.co.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.co.uk)

**Phone:** 0303 123 1114 **Email:** [ni@ico.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ni@ico.gsi.gov.uk)

**Post:** Information Commissioner's Office, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 12 Cromac Place,  
Gasworks, Ormeau Road, Belfast, BT7 2JB

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**