



29 July 2015

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request No: AD-IG-01(2)-2015-77
Key Word: Physical Fitness Standards
Subject: Physical Fitness Standards
Request: **Date Received:** 17/07/2015
 Date of Response: 29/07/2015

Thank you for your request for information received on 17 July 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.

Question 1

What/ if any physical fitness testing procedures do you have for Paramedics looking to gain employment to your ambulance trust? What are the standards you require on these tests?

Answer 1

NIAS staff do not undergo any physical testing procedures as part of recruitment exercises for any staff role within the Trust. Staff are referred to Occupational Health as part of the recruitment process but this does not relate to physical testing procedures.

Question 2

Is offer of employment dependent on reaching said criteria?

Answer 2

Not applicable. Refer to Answer 1 above.

Question 3

Do you have any mandatory retesting of ambulance personnel currently employed by your trust? If so how often? And what is the outcome of failing such a test?

Answer 3

Not applicable. Refer to Answer 1 above.

Question 4

Do you have any research to support the selection of the physical fitness tests you use?

Answer 4

Not applicable. Refer to Answer 1 above.

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: ni@ico.org.uk

Post: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE SK9 5AF

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

Alison Vitty (Miss)
CORPORATE MANAGER