



20 October 2015

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request No: AD-IG-01(2)-2015-101-15
Key Word: Ambulance Provision
Subject: Northern Trust area

Request: **Date Received:** 23/09/2015
 Monitoring Date: 24/09/2015
 Date of Response: 20/10/2015

Thank you for your request for information received 23 September 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

On the 20 September 2015 from midnight to midday, how many Northern Trust funded ambulances were in service?

Answer 1

The Northern Trust area has been taken to mean Northern Local Commissioning Group area. For 20 September 2015 from midnight to midday the following activity has been identified:

- 10 Stations are located in the Northern Local Commissioning Group area along with 3 deployment points
- 20 A&E resources were in operation in this area during the timeframe above
- 2 Patient Care Service resources were in operation during the timeframe above
- 1 Rapid Response Vehicle was in operation during the timeframe above

Question 2

How many of those vehicles had to make a journey out of the area to transport a patient to a hospital in Belfast?

Answer 2

During this timeframe 6 vehicles responded to incidents in the Northern Trust area and transported patients to Hospitals within Belfast namely the Royal Victoria Hospital and Mater Hospital. It should be noted that 5 of these vehicles were A&E vehicles and 1 vehicle was Patient Care Service vehicle. It is further noted that during this timeframe a further 1 x Patient Care Service vehicle from the Northern Trust area provided transport to a patient in the Belfast area and transported them to a Belfast Hospital.

Question 3

How many of those vehicles were able to immediately return to the area that they are funded for?

Question 3



During this timeframe, 6 vehicles were noted to return to the Northern Trust area immediately after clearing the Belfast Hospitals. It is noted that 1 x Patient Care Service vehicle remained in the Belfast area and carried out inter-hospital transfer activity.

Question 4

How many were used for emergency ambulance cover in other areas eg greater Belfast, Bangor on that same night before being able to return to the area they are funded for?

Question 4

During this timeframe no emergency ambulances were noted to be covering in other areas. However you should be fully aware that the Trust's position is that at all times the nearest available appropriate resource will be dispatched to attend to an incident which will take vehicles out of their area. It is noted that during the timeframe above Northern area vehicles were allocated on 74 occasions to respond to 61 incidents (as multiple resources can be allocated to attend one incident) with a total of 40 emergency vehicles subsequently transporting patients to Hospitals in the Northern or Belfast LCG areas.

Question 5

Please list the number of such emergencies per each vehicle.

Question 5

During the timeframe, no such incidents occurred

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.

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
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

Alison Vitty (Miss)
CORPORATE MANAGER



INF-15-174 - NORTHERN TRUST ACTIVITY

Based on vehicles with Northern Callsigns allocated to calls on
20th September 2015 between 00:00hrs and 12:00hrs

There were 63 incidents on 20th September, 2015 between 00:00hrs and 12:00hrs that were allocated to vehicles with Northern Callsigns.
 There were 76 allocations during this time, since multiple resources can be allocated to one incident.
 There were 20 unique Northern Callsigns for A&E Ambulances that were allocated to these incidents.
 There were 2 unique Northern Callsigns for PCS Ambulances that were allocated to these incidents.
 There was 1 unique Northern Callsign for RRV Ambulances that was allocated to these incidents.

Table 1: Allocations per Northern Callsign (Question 1)

STATION	Callsign	Ambulance Type	Allocated but Stood Down before arriving at scene	Arrived At Scene, did not transport patient to Hospital	Transported patient to Hospital	Total
ANTRIM	N521	A&E AMBULANCE	0	0	2	2
	N522	A&E AMBULANCE	1	2	5	8
BALLYCASTLE	N321	A&E AMBULANCE	1	2	2	5
	N322	A&E AMBULANCE	1	1	2	4
BALLYMENA	N411	A&E AMBULANCE	2	1	5	8
	N421	A&E AMBULANCE	2	0	2	4
	N423	A&E AMBULANCE	3	7	2	12
	N424	A&E AMBULANCE	0	1	1	2
	ROMEO41	RRV	0	1	0	1
BALLYMONEY	N224	A&E AMBULANCE	0	0	2	2
CARRICKFERGUS	N1022	A&E AMBULANCE	0	0	1	1
COLERAINE	N123	A&E AMBULANCE	0	0	2	2
	N124	A&E AMBULANCE	3	1	3	7
COOKSTOWN	N721	A&E AMBULANCE	1	0	0	1
	N723	A&E AMBULANCE	1	1	2	4
LARNE	N811	A&E AMBULANCE	0	0	2	2
	N821	A&E AMBULANCE	0	0	2	2

	N826	A&E AMBULANCE	1	1	1	3
MAGHERAFELT	N621	A&E AMBULANCE	0	0	1	1
	N623	A&E AMBULANCE	0	0	1	1
WHITEABBEY	N921	A&E AMBULANCE	0	0	2	2
	N931	PCS	0	0	1	1
	N932	PCS	0	0	1	1
Total			16	18	42	76

Table 2: Location of Incidents (HSCT Area) allocated to vehicles with Northern Callsigns (Question 2)

STATION	Callsign	Ambulance Type	Location of Incident		Total
			Belfast HSCT	Northern HSCT	
ANTRIM	N521	A&E AMBULANCE	0	2	2
	N522	A&E AMBULANCE	0	8	8
BALLYCASTLE	N321	A&E AMBULANCE	0	5	5
	N322	A&E AMBULANCE	0	4	4
BALLYMENA	N411	A&E AMBULANCE	0	8	8
	N421	A&E AMBULANCE	0	4	4
	N423	A&E AMBULANCE	0	12	12
	N424	A&E AMBULANCE	0	2	2
	ROMEO41	RRV	0	1	1
BALLYMONEY	N224	A&E AMBULANCE	0	2	2
CARRICKFERGUS	N1022	A&E AMBULANCE	0	1	1
COLERAINE	N123	A&E AMBULANCE	0	2	2
	N124	A&E AMBULANCE	0	7	7
COOKSTOWN	N721	A&E AMBULANCE	0	1	1
	N723	A&E AMBULANCE	0	4	4
LARNE	N811	A&E AMBULANCE	0	2	2
	N821	A&E AMBULANCE	0	2	2
	N826	A&E AMBULANCE	0	3	3
MAGHERAFELT	N621	A&E AMBULANCE	0	1	1
	N623	A&E AMBULANCE	0	1	1
WHITEABBEY	N921	A&E AMBULANCE	0	2	2
	N931	PCS	0	1	1
	N932	PCS	1	0	1
Total			1	75	76

Please note, the incident in BHSCT is located in BT15 (Incident No. 2802480. See table 4). Once completed, the vehicle returned to base (Questions 4 & 5)

Table 3: Hospitals attended by the patients involved in the 42 incidents where they were transported to Hospital

STATION	Callsign	Ambulance Type	HOSPITAL ATTENDED				Total
			ANTRIM AREA	CAUSEWAY	MATER INFIRMORUM	RVH	
ANTRIM	N521	A&E AMBULANCE	1	0	0	1	2
	N522	A&E AMBULANCE	5	0	0	0	5
BALLYCASTLE	N321	A&E AMBULANCE	0	2	0	0	2
	N322	A&E AMBULANCE	0	2	0	0	2
BALLYMENA	N411	A&E AMBULANCE	4	1	0	0	5
	N421	A&E AMBULANCE	1	1	0	0	2
	N423	A&E AMBULANCE	2	0	0	0	2
	N424	A&E AMBULANCE	0	1	0	0	1
BALLYMONEY	N224	A&E AMBULANCE	0	2	0	0	2
CARRICKFERGUS	N1022	A&E AMBULANCE	0	0	0	1	1
COLERAINE	N123	A&E AMBULANCE	0	2	0	0	2
	N124	A&E AMBULANCE	1	2	0	0	3
COOKSTOWN	N723	A&E AMBULANCE	1	0	0	1	2
LARNE	N811	A&E AMBULANCE	1	0	1	0	2
	N821	A&E AMBULANCE	2	0	0	0	2
	N826	A&E AMBULANCE	1	0	0	0	1
MAGHERAFELT	N621	A&E AMBULANCE	0	1	0	0	1
	N623	A&E AMBULANCE	1	0	0	0	1
WHITEABBEY	N921	A&E AMBULANCE	1	0	1	0	2
	N931	PCS	0	0	1	0	1
	N932	PCS	0	0	0	1	1
Total			21	14	3	4	42

Table 4: Details of the 7 incidents where the patient was transported to a Belfast Hospital (i.e. RVH or Mater)

STATION	Callsign	Ambulance Type	Hospital Attended	Call Number	Details of vehicle's next activity	Return to Northern?
ANTRIM	N521	A&E AMBULANCE	RVH	2802434	2802500 - In Crumlin	Yes
CARRICKFERGUS	N1022	A&E AMBULANCE	RVH	2802412	Return to Base (Carrickfergus)	Yes
COOKSTOWN	N723	A&E AMBULANCE	RVH	2802193	2802222 - In Larne	Yes
LARNE	N811	A&E AMBULANCE	MATER	2802385	2802439 - In Newtownabbey	Yes
WHITEABBEY	N921	A&E AMBULANCE	MATER	2802396	2802488 - In Larne	Yes
	N931	PCS	MATER	2802380	PCS Transfer - RVH to Musgrave Park	No

N932	PCS	RVH	2802480	Return to Base (Whiteabbey)	Yes
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