



Oifig anStiúrthóir
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta,
Foirgneamh Aibhneacha, Crosbhóthar
Thamhlachta, Tamhlacht,
Baile Átha Cliath D24 XNP2

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Ref: SK/PQs 54312/23 54313/23 54314/23

21 December 2023

Deputy Holly Cairns TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 54312/23

To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the provision of a new paramedic training facility in Cork which was projected to open to trainees in January 2024; the current projected opening date for the facility; and the cost of the facility. -Holly Cairns

PQ 54313/23

To ask the Minister for Health if the delayed opening of a new paramedic training facility in Cork is in relation to budgetary constraints; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Holly Cairns

PQ 54314/23

To ask the Minister for Health the number of paramedic trainees who had been issued contracts to train in a new facility in Cork; whether these trainees will be accommodated in other training centres; what assistance is available to trainees who may be asked to change training locations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Holly Cairns

Dear Deputy Cairns,

PQ 54312/23

There have been significant difficulties in identifying a suitable location for a National Ambulance Service College tertiary education facility in the Cork area. One that would reasonably be able to provide all the expected and required facilities necessary to deliver high quality paramedic education to both the professional and academic levels that are currently complied with by National Ambulance Service. NASC has input in determining the requirements a facility should meet, to enable educational programmes be delivered to the highest standard, however it is the responsibility of other departments within NAS and HSE to identify and procure appropriate facilities for use. Efforts are ongoing to identify a suitable location but presently there is no date identified for such a facility to become operational.

PQ 54313/23

Approval in principle has been granted for a permanent NASC tertiary education facility in the Cork area. Planning and development processes are currently at preliminary stages. NASC has submitted its requirements for the facility and continues to liaise with other relevant departments with NAS and HSE to progress this project.

PQ 54314/23

Twenty-four student paramedic vacancies were advertised for the Cork location. All candidates who accepted offers of positions were afforded the opportunity to attend training at any of the three other NASC campuses of their choice. It is the responsibility of individual





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candidates to make their own arrangements for attending whichever NASC campus they choose to attend.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Karl Kendellen,
General Manager, Tertiary Education
National Ambulance Service

