



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Oibríochtaí  
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta  
Bloc 4, Lárionad Gnó,  
Tulach Mhór,  
Co. Uíbh Fhailí, R35 FH59

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Ref: WM/PQ/36954

2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024

Deputy Michael Healy Ray  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ 36954/24**

**To ask the Minister for Health if changes are being introduced to the ambulance service in Kerry (details supplied); if so, the reason; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Michael Healy-Rae**

Dear Deputy Healy Ray,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) National Ambulance Service (NAS) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE wishes to clarify that there is no reduction of NAS services currently or planned in the HSE South West region. Rather, the HSE has deployed additional staff over the last 12 months. The HSE is aware of concerns raised locally, and confirms that existing NAS services continue, and will continue, to be provided from all existing Ambulance Stations within Kerry.

Since September 2023, the National Ambulance Service (NAS) has deployed an additional 32 Paramedics in the South West region. This includes seven additional Paramedic Interns who were deployed to the region in August this year.

Local Line Managers continue to manage the day to day challenges associated with gaps in rosters resulting from high levels of staff absence due to illness or injury.

This means that any additional staff appointed must fill existing rosters and cover leave arrangements so that we can ensure we minimise the need for our staff to work overtime which can have a detrimental impact on their health and wellbeing. This also makes sense in terms of maximising the use of our available resources.

In both the short and medium term, we are engaging and consulting with our trade unions on how staff can best be deployed to deliver both current and future services in the region.





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I trust that this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Robert Moriarty  
General Manager  
Area Operations  
NAS South-West

