

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
BY SENATOR B.E. SHENTON
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 9th MARCH 2010**

Question

Which Ambulance Station employees, if any, are issued with mobile phones?

Would the Minister advise whether additional payments are made to any persons supplied with mobile phones to cover 'personal telephone costs' and whether these payments are also extended to secretaries, store men, and other staff? (Please list job titles of all persons that receive a payment, together with the payment amount)

Answer

The following members of the Ambulance Service are issued with mobile phones:

Acting Chief Ambulance Officer
Combined Control Centre Manager
Fleet and Technical Services Manager
Operations Managers x 3
Fleet and Technical Services Assistant
1 x PTS Care Assistant

As an Emergency Service it is vital to have reliable and quick methods of communication with the service managers, particularly in the event of a Major Incident. This is regarded as good practise.

The Fleet and Technical Services Assistant is issued with a mobile phone which he uses only whilst at work as he is often away from the station. His calls are work related only.

The Patient Transport Service Assistant is issued with a mobile phone as a means of contact as her vehicle is not based at Ambulance HQ; again this is only used in work time and for work related calls.

The use of all service issue mobile phones is closely monitored by the Acting CAO on a monthly basis. As this audit produces an itemised list of calls, abuse would be immediately apparent.