



Ambiwlans Awyr Cymru  
Wales Air Ambulance

Ty Elusen  
Ffordd Angel  
Llanelli Gate  
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Llanelli  
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Friday 23 December 2022

Councillor Elwyn Jones  
Chair of the Council  
Gwynedd Council

Dear Councillor Jones,

Thank you for your letter, dated 15 December, and for taking the time to write to us.

Firstly, we would like to acknowledge and thank the Council for their kind words about the Charity. Collectively, over the past twenty-one years our supporters, volunteers, medics, pilots, allocators, Charity employees and Trustees have helped to grow Wales Air Ambulance into the service that it is today. We will forever be grateful for that.

We would also like to thank Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn, Councillor Dilwyn Morgan and Councillor Llio Elenid Owen for taking their valuable time to meet with the Charity's Chief Executive, Dr Sue Barnes, and Director of Strategic Communications and Engagement, Steven Stokes, recently. This presented an important opportunity to discuss the complexities around the proposal and the scrutiny/engagement process, as well as listen to the questions that are being asked by communities across Gwynedd.

With regards to the service reconfiguration proposals, in-depth research and analysis has been conducted by our NHS medical partners, the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS), which includes independent modelling. The resulting EMRTS Service Development Proposal has been presented to both Charity Trustees and the NHS Wales Emergency Ambulance Services Committee (which is made up of the Chief Executives of every Welsh health board and the Chief Executive of the Welsh Ambulance Service).

In summary, the proposal indicates that through a reconfiguration of the air ambulance service (revision of base locations, a change in operational hours, an enhancement of after-dark flying), Wales Air Ambulance could attend hundreds more life or limb-threatening emergencies every year and every county of Wales, including Gwynedd, would see an increase in the number of critically ill patients attended.

Wedi cofrestru yng Nghymru a Lloegr  
Registered in England and Wales  
Rhif Elusen/Charity Number: 1083645

[www.ambiwlanawyrcymru.com](http://www.ambiwlanawyrcymru.com)  
[www.walesairambulance.com](http://www.walesairambulance.com)





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As the analysis has been conducted by EMRTS, the engagement process is aligned with NHS governance. The EMRTS Service Development Proposal is now subject to an independent process of scrutiny and public engagement, led by the Chief Ambulance Services Commissioner. We would strongly encourage you to engage with the Commissioner's process to gain a detailed understanding of the proposals and to ask any questions that you may have.

You can find out more via [Service Development Proposal - Emergency Ambulance Services Committee \(nhs.wales\)](https://www.nhs.uk/service-development-proposal-emergency-ambulance-services-committee).

From the Charity's perspective, we continue to note the comments expressed to us by our supporters and this will inform our own response to the Commissioner's engagement process. Therefore, I thank you again for taking the time to write to us.

The support we receive from the people of Gwynedd is valuable to us. For that, we offer our grateful and eternal thanks, not just on behalf of our Charity but also those who are alive today thanks to the generosity of your County.

We sincerely hope that we are able to continue, and strengthen, our positive relationship with you and the community you represent.

Yours sincerely

David Gilbert OBE  
Chair of the Board of Trustees  
On behalf of the Board of Trustees  
Wales Air Ambulance Charity

Dr Sue Barnes  
Chief Executive  
Wales Air Ambulance Charity

