



appg

All Party Parliamentary Group  
for Air Ambulances

**Key Issues**

**Annual Reception**

Monday 10th June 2019 at 4pm

[www.aaaa.org.uk/appgaa](http://www.aaaa.org.uk/appgaa)



ISSUE	AAA POLICY
<p><b>Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme:</b> In 2016, it was planned that the replacement for all the emergency services radio networks would be launched to replace the current Airwave system that allows air to ground and ground to ground communications between emergency services. To date the project has been delayed with the transition of services estimated to be completed in late 2022</p>	<p>The rollout of the new 3G/4G platform is welcomed to enhance security and the functionality of the systems in place. The rollout must be co-ordinated to ensure that there is no reduction in communications, no impact on operational availability of aircraft, and no cost implications either directly or indirectly to charities or NHS Trusts. The desire is for charities and aircraft owners to manage at the agreed standards, the installation process with funding provided to support the installation costs.</p>
<p><b>Helicopter Landing Sites:</b> Access to Helicopter Landing Facilities at Specialist Treatment Centres is inconsistent across the UK. Additionally, the introduction of night air operations realises the need for 24/7 accessibility to more approved night landing sites.</p>	<p>The AAA supports the need for increased NHS Trust infrastructure funding allowing the development and improvement of helicopter landing sites at key hospitals. This will result in easier access by HEMS flights to specialist treatment centres and for the impact of darkness and low light to be reduced by the introduction of approved lit landing sites open 24/7.</p>
<p><b>Patient Data/Outcome Information and Risk Management support:</b> Requirements of a formal and funded national system to improve and standardise key areas of data collation to support with improving and enhancing patient care and risk management</p>	<p>The AAA supports the need for air ambulance and specialist teams nationally to have the ability to efficiently collate data for analysis to improve care, research, development and education to benefit the public. Funding, development and accessibility to support is a key area of progress with safety management to support the specialist services responding by land or air.</p>
<p><b>Lottery Limit:</b> The amount that society lotteries can raise is subject to an annual sales limit of £10m. If this is not changed, AAA members running lotteries will need to limit their recruitment of new members, restricting a major source of fundraising income. The alternative would be to take out an additional licence and restructure their existing lottery, incurring unnecessary expense.</p>	<p>The AAA supports the need for an increase in the annual sales cap that currently applies to society lotteries. It would like to see the Government implement the recommendations of its own consultation on this issue.</p>
<p><b>Flight Time Limitations:</b> Flight Time Limitations (FTL's) are being debated by EASA and the CAA, with the potential of a set maximum number of working hours being imposed on HEMS Crew Members.</p>	<p>To allow Air Operator Certificate (AOC) holders to manage HEMS Crew Members via the Chief Pilot and Aircraft Commanding Officer. This will be achieved by setting and monitoring working hours, reducing fatigue. This will safeguard the operation of the aircraft, allowing for winter pressures, illness and periods of inactivity.</p>

DESIRED OUTCOME	INFLUENCERS
<p>The smooth transition from Airwave to the new 3G/4G platform ensuring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there is no reduction in operational availability to respond to emergency calls by air</li> <li>• radio communications continue between the Ambulance Services and to/from other emergency services</li> <li>• the ability to continue multi agency communications (air to air, ground to air, air to ground and ground to ground) at all levels of flight</li> <li>• improvements to overall national network coverage.</li> </ul> <p>Supported by Air Ambulance charities having freedom to choose the company to install equipment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home Office</li> <li>• Department for Health</li> <li>• AACE</li> <li>• Ambulance Services</li> <li>• National Police Aviation Service (NPAS)</li> <li>• AAA members</li> </ul>
<p>To see increased collaboration between NHS Trusts that receive or transfer patients via air ambulance, air ambulance charities, AOC holders, CAA and ambulance services, to support and provide consistent, standardised and more accessible landing sites at key treatment centres, which are patient and safety focused. Facilities should allow for the speedy, safe and dignified transfer of a patient from an air ambulance to the treating clinicians without the need for further transfer where practical.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Health</li> <li>• Civil Aviation Authority</li> <li>• NHS England, Scotland and Wales</li> <li>• AAA members</li> <li>• AACE</li> </ul>
<p>A funded, endorsed and accessible data collation and risk management system for the UKs air ambulance teams, ensuring patient treatment and care can be evidenced as well as the ability to further improve risk management and accessibility of key information. Education and measured efficiency of services can only be managed with true collaboration and continued service development through learning from the full patient journey as a system, not in isolation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AACE</li> <li>• Department of Health</li> <li>• NHS England/Scotland/Wales/NI</li> <li>• AAA Members</li> <li>• APPGAA</li> <li>• AAA members</li> </ul>
<p>Following a consultation, the Government has indicated that its preferred option is to allow a tenfold increase in the amount that a large society lottery can raise per year, bringing the annual limit to £100m. The Government should implement this change as a matter of urgency.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department for Digital, Culture Media &amp; Sport</li> <li>• Gambling Commission</li> <li>• Office for Civil Society</li> <li>• Lotteries Council</li> <li>• AAA members</li> </ul>
<p>EASA to allow state oversight of AOC operations, empowering Chief Pilots and Commanders within the approved AOC operation and their procedures; managing fatigue / safety without impacting on Technical Crew Members or other patient treatment activities within the NHS.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA)</li> <li>• Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)</li> <li>• British Helicopter Association (BHA)</li> <li>• European Helicopter Association (EHA)</li> <li>• AACE</li> </ul>



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## Reception Agenda

- 4.00pm Registration
- 5.00pm Speeches
- 6.00pm Carriages



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