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Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau
Ambiwlans Brys
Emergency Ambulance
Services Committee

EMRTS Service Review Briefing 6

Current Position as at March 7, 2023

Latest Developments



Firstly, thank you for your continued interest in the EMRTS Service Review. I am pleased to be able to provide an update on the work being undertaken ahead of the formal public engagement process in relation to the Service Review of the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS Cymru) who work in partnership with the Wales Air Ambulance Charity.

As previously explained, the Emergency Ambulance Services Committee (EASC) has agreed to explore and maximise the additional activity that could be achieved from existing bases and to explore options to reconfigure the service.

Since the last briefing, the Wales Air Ambulance Charitable Trust announced (February 22, 2023) its new aviation partner as Gama Aviation Plc that successfully bid for the seven-year contract to provide aviation services to the air ambulance in Wales, starting on January 01, 2024. The Charity also confirmed that it is extending its contracts with Caernarfon Airport and Welshpool Airport, where two of its operations are currently based, until 2026.

This announcement by the Charity to begin the new aviation contract whilst continuing with the four bases means that the EMRTS Service Review engagement can conclude whilst the Charity and EMRTS continues to provide lifesaving services. Full details about this announcement are on the Wales Air Ambulance Charitable Trust [website](#).

The work in preparing the formal engagement activity has continued at pace and you will see from this update the extent of information that is now available on our EASC [website](#) to include a video explainer and detailed Frequently Asked Questions section.

I hope you will find this website information helpful but as always, we are keen to receive feedback about how we can continually improve to ensure this engagement is as meaningful as possible for all involved. You can contact us either via our [website](#) or [e-mail us: EASCServiceReviewQueries@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:EASCServiceReviewQueries@wales.nhs.uk).

We have also received some helpful suggestions of venues for the public face to face engagement sessions and are working through the venue availability that will help shape the overall timetable of engagement activity. Please be assured that we will give plenty of notice of dates and venues to ensure that those who want to participate are provided with the opportunity to do so.

The EMRTS Service Review is on the agenda for the next formal Committee meeting of EASC (taking place on Tuesday March 14, 2023, details are on the EASC website), as a 'Chair's Action' to start the formal engagement process once engagement materials are agreed by all parties, in line with agreement at EASC meeting on December 06, 2022.

Just a reminder that all previously issued briefing updates are published in English and Welsh on the EASC website, but if you would like to receive a copy e-mailed to you directly, please send us an [e-mail](#) requesting to be added to our distribution list.

Stephen Harray
Chief Ambulance Services Commissioner



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Website Refresh

We have updated our website to make it easier to navigate by creating a dedicated engagement area focusing on the EMRTS Service, below are some of the new additions:

Explainer Video



A [video explainer](#) has been produced as part of the pre-engagement phase of this work. Recognising the complexities of the air ambulance service, the video has been designed to explain the process of how the service operates and which organisation is responsible for each part of the activity.

News

A dedicated news area has been created to ensure all the latest briefing updates are available in one place.

26 January 2023

[EMRTS Review Briefing Note 5 \(PDF, 465Kb\)](#)

The purpose of this briefing note is to provide a further update on the work being undertaken ahead of the formal public engagement process in relation to the Service Review of the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS Cymru) who work in partnership with the Wales Air Ambulance Charity.

6 January 2023

[EMRTS Review Briefing Note 4 \(PDF, 287Kb\)](#)

The purpose of this briefing note is to provide an update on the timescale for the start of the agreed formal engagement process in relation to the Service Review of the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS Cymru) who work in partnership with the Wales Air Ambulance Charity. Now likely to start in early February 2023.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Work has commenced on the new FAQs which cover 3 areas:

- 1) How the Air Ambulance Service is Provided in Partnership
- 2) Why the Engagement Process is Needed; and
- 3) What is the Formal Engagement Process?

Along with a helpful glossary of terms.

- How the Air Ambulance Service is Provided in Partnership
- Why the Engagement Process is Needed
- What is the Formal Engagement Process?
- Glossary of terms

We will be working with the Charity and the EMRTS Team to ensure these are updated as and when required.

Supporting Documents

Where possible we will share with you as much supporting information as we can, this will be located within the Supporting Documents area of the site and will be regularly reviewed by the team.

Date	Title	Summary
11/10/2022	EASC EMRTS SDP Presentation (PDF, 1.9Mb)	The purpose of this presentation is to provide stakeholders with an overview of the EMRTS service development proposal developed by the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS Cymru) and the Wales Air Ambulance Charity (WAAC).
02/11/2022	EMRTS Service Development Proposal Cover Paper (Word, 145Kb)	The purpose of this report is to provide EASC Members with background information and an introduction to the service development proposal being presented by the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS Cymru) and the Wales Air Ambulance Charity Trust.
02/11/2022	EMRTS Service Development Proposal (PDF, 10.0Mb)	The document is a composite of multiple service reviews and analysis, but in line with recently published proposals, the core message is one of a continually improving service for the people of Wales.