

Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust Charity

Registered Number: 1050084

Annual Report 2020/21

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1. Reference and Administrative Details

Name of charity:

'WELSH AMBULANCE SERVICES NHS TRUST CHARITY'

The Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust Charity (registration number 1050084) is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

The Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust is a corporate body in its own right. It is led by a Board of Directors comprising a Chairman, seven Non-Executive Directors, a Chief Executive, a Director of Finance and three other Executive Directors. The Trust acts as the Corporate Trustee of the Charitable Funds held on behalf of the ambulance services in Wales. During the year 2020/21 the members of the Trust Board were:

Chairman: Martin Woodford

Non-Executive Directors:

Kevin Davies (Charitable Funds Committee
Chairman)

Pamela Hall (retired on 31st December 2020)

Emrys Davies

Paul Hollard

Martin Turner

Bethan Evans

Joga Singh

Executive Directors:

Jason Killens	Chief Executive
Dr Brendan Lloyd	Medical Director/ Interim Deputy Chief Executive
Christopher Turley	Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Resources
Claire Vaughan	Executive Director of Workforce and Organisational Development
Claire Roche	Executive Director Quality and Nursing

Address of Principal Office:

Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust
Ty Elwy
Ffordd Richard Davies
St Asaph Business Park
St Asaph
Denbighshire, LL17 0LJ

Treasurer:

Chris Turley
Director of Finance & Corporate Resources
Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust
Vantage Point House
Ty Coch Way
CWMBRAN
NP44 7HF

Bankers:

Barclays Bank plc
Corporate Banking Centre
70 Kingsway
Swansea, SA1 5JB

Auditors:

Audit Wales

Ground Floor, Unit 5325
North Wales Business Park
Abergele
Conwy
LL22 8LJ

Solicitors:

Blake Morgan
Bradley Court
Park Place
Cardiff
CF10 3DP

Registered Charity Number:

1050084

2. Structure, Governance and Management

2.1 Trusteeship

All funds donated for the benefit of ambulance services in Wales are held within this Charity. Separately identifiable designated sub funds are held within the main Charity's umbrella these being three Regional General Purpose funds, a National General Purpose fund, three Community First Responder Schemes, a Bursary Fund a restricted Ambulance Equipment Fund and a (new) restricted EMS Ambulance Fund.

The Trust Board is the sole corporate trustee of the charity managed by the Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust and is accountable for its administration and stewardship. The duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship lie with the body corporate.

On appointment Executive and Non-Executive Directors take part in an informal induction programme and they are made aware, as Board members, of their responsibilities as the Corporate Trustee of Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust Charity. The Charitable Funds Committee regularly overviews the aims, objectives and recent performance of the charitable fund. The Committee is also updated regularly with any changes in Charitable Fund legislation.

Members of the Charitable Funds Committee are aware of their responsibilities and aim to ensure that:

- a. All legislation and Charity Commission regulations are complied with.
- b. The Trust's rules and regulations are adequate and are adhered to.
- c. The Trust's charitable funds investment policy is approved by the Board and kept under regular review.
- d. The financial activities and the statement of affairs of the Trust's charity are regularly reviewed.
- e. Expenditure approvals are given by the Board for expenditure requests over delegated thresholds.
- f. Delegated financial limits are approved for charitable fund expenditure.

2.2 Operation of Funds

During the year ending 31st March 2021 the following occurred:-

- The Trust's Charitable Funds Committee met twice during the year to review the affairs of the Charity and the management arrangements for all of the Charity's funds;
- The Trustee received reports on the management of the Charity's funds. Additional reports were also received by the Trustee for consideration and approval on the Charity's operations;

- Individual charitable transactions have been subject to formal control procedures and reported to nominated fundholders on a regular basis;
- The Auditor General for Wales will issue a report on the accounts following an Independent Examination of the financial statements. It is the Auditor General for Wales' responsibility to examine the accounts, following procedures laid down by the Charity Commission, and state any particular matters that have come to his attention.

- **Air Ambulance Appeal**

Over 15 years ago an appeal was launched to fund the long-term operation of an air ambulance service for Wales. This appeal has been registered as a separate charity with the Charity Commission. Therefore, no air ambulance appeal funds are held within the Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust Charitable Fund accounts.

3. Objectives and Activities

Ambulance services in Wales receive numerous voluntary donations and gifts mainly from local communities within the principality. These gifts in law are regarded as charitable donations and as such are administered under the laws of trusteeship and the charitable acts laid down in statute.

All donations received are held in a separate charitable trust account and are used in accordance with the Charity's objectives as laid down in the governing document approved by the Charity Commission. Although the general objectives of the Charity are fairly wide ranging i.e. with reference to utilising funds "for any charitable purpose or purposes relating to the National Health Service", they are principally used to purchase amenities for the benefit of ambulance staff, together with providing additional training resources to further enhance the quality and standards of care provided by ambulance services in Wales.

The Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust Charity are sincerely grateful for the donations and legacies received, which are usually associated with the delivery of professional services and high standards of patient care provided by individual members of the service.

The recognition and support given to the ambulance service within Wales is appreciated and we would like to thank everyone for their continued support.

Achievements and Performance

4.1 Background

The Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust charitable funds' overall prime aim is to benefit patient care. Therefore, the Trustee has a reserves policy of encouraging funds to be spent (in accordance with the donors' wishes) rather than to be accumulated. During 2020/21 £20k (2019/20 £53k) was spent during the year to enhance the standards of patient care and ambulance staff welfare.

4.2 Income

Total Income during the year was £358k (2019/20 £28k). This is made up of donations of £169k (2019/20 £26k) plus £188k (2019/20 Nil) in respect of two legacies and £1k (2019/20 £1k) from other incoming resources.

In respect of the donations received, a large proportion of these, some £137k, related to donations made as a direct result of Covid-19 pandemic external campaigns. A further £32k related to numerous individual donations of small value. Their collective worth to the continued support of ambulance patient care throughout Wales cannot be overstated. The Trustee would like to thank all the individuals who have contributed to the charity during the year, particularly in a difficult climate of competing calls on their charitable giving.

In respect of the legacies received, £185k related to a specific legacy for the purchase of an EMS Ambulance to be used to purchase a fully equipped Emergency Ambulance (fast response) for use in responding to emergency life threatening calls and to be based in Aberystwyth to serve the population of the surrounding area.

No specific fundraising activities were performed by the Charity during the year.

There was a £46k unrealised investment gain for the year to 31st March 2021 (£10k loss in 2019/20). Unrealised gains occur due to increases in market value, these can fluctuate up or down according to market performance.

4.3 Expenditure

Total expenditure on charitable activities during the year amounted to £30k (2019/20 £63k). Of this, £3k (2019/20 £7k) was used to purchase a wide range of medical equipment and medical and surgical items for use on ambulances to enhance pre-hospital emergency care and £10k on management fees.

The Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust has over 3,600 staff based across the whole of Wales. During the year £17k (2019/20 £46k) was spent from charitable funds for the benefit of staff and amenities. As a result of the pandemic no bursaries were awarded to staff for training and development purposes during 2020-21 (2019-20 £4k).

Total management expenses in the year amounted to £10k (2019/20 £10k) which represented 1.82% (2.59% 2019/20) of the average fund balances in the year.

4.4 Summary

The total charitable fund balances held at 31st March 2021 were £737k (31st March 2020 £363k). Fund balances therefore increased by £374k during the year.

Financial Review

5.1 Reserves Policy (fund balances)

There are no recurrent commitments, other than the £10k management fee, against Charitable Fund Balances; donations are applied only to support non recurrent expenditure on staff and patient welfare.

The Trustee considers that public donations should be applied within a reasonable period of receipt, normally within 12 months, as long as there are no approved long-term plans that require accumulation of balances, and that expenditure represents appropriate use of funds. During the year income exceeded expenditure by £328k.

The Trustee actively encourages fund holders to use their funds rather than accumulate and look to reducing current balances.

The Trustee has in the past approved a budget and reserves policy with the aim of utilising charitable funds in accordance with the donor's wishes. The Trustee also has an objective not to increase the total funds held between one year and the next unless special circumstances arose in accordance with the purposes for which the funds were given e.g., if funds were given to contribute towards a purchase in a future time period.

During this financial year £185k was received as a specific legacy for the purchase of an EMS Ambulance. Procurement and commissioning of this ambulance has taken place during the autumn of 2021. The commissioning of a commemorative Covid-19 coin at a cost of c£54k also took place during 2021 and distribution of these to staff commenced in quarter three of 2021/22. These two items will go a long way to reduce funds that have accumulated as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Charitable Funds Committee in conjunction with Charitable Funds managers continue to consider further options to expend the remaining accumulated funds.

5.2 Investment and Grant Making Policies

The Charity's investment policy is in accordance with the governing document as approved by the Charity Commission. This is to hold a minimum of 20% in interest earning bank accounts and a maximum of 50% in fixed income or equity funds. This

is in order to obtain the maximum return on investment with the minimum of risk to the funds.

The Charity does not currently have a policy of making grants to other bodies and none were made during the 2020/21 financial year.

Trustee's Statement on the Accounts

The full annual accounts have been prepared in accordance with:-

- the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014,
- the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102),
- the Charities Act 2011, and
- UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

They were approved by the Trustee on 27th January 2022. The annual accounts have been subjected to an Independent Examination and will be submitted to the Charity Commission.

The Trustee confirms that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives and granting of expenditure. Details of types of payments made during the year are described below. As a result of this expenditure members of the public accessing ambulance services either as patients or carers / relatives will benefit from the enhancement of equipment and services funded by them.

Patients' Welfare	- Purchase of small pieces of equipment and enhancement of services and facilities over and above that normally provided by the NHS.
Staff Welfare	- Enhancement of staff facilities and by providing education over and above that would normally be provided by the NHS.
Capital Equipment	- Purchase of equipment in addition to or an enhancement of that which would be normally provided by the NHS.

Plans for the Future

The charity will continue to support staff with a view to enhancing patient experience.



Chris Turley

Director of Finance and Corporate Resources
On behalf of the Trustee
27 January 2022

The full 2020/21 accounts are shown at **Appendix A** in this report. Additional copies of the Trust's Charitable Fund Accounts are available on request from the following address:-

Chris Turley
Director of Finance and Corporate Resources
Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust
Vantage Point House
Ty Coch Way
CWMBRAN
NP44 7HF

Tel: 01633 626201

APPENDIX A

2020/21 Funds held on Trust Accounts