

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-395
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/07326/12

William Powell AM
Chair
Petitions Committee

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

29 June 2012

Dear Bill,

Thank you for your letter of 26 June regarding funding for the Wales Air Ambulance service.

I recognise and very much appreciate, the vital role played by the Wales Air Ambulance in providing a vital service through emergency air cover for those who face life-threatening illness or injuries. Patients in Wales can be difficult to access by land for a number of reasons, including remoteness, rurality and difficult terrain and the Air Ambulance plays an important part in mitigating such difficulties.

The Air Ambulance Charity provides a unique service and achieves a timeliness of access into hospital unachievable by land and this can result in improved patient outcomes. We are always open to opportunities to build on the work done by the Air Ambulance Charity and their existing partnerships with NHS Wales, although the Charity has not made a request to the Welsh Government to provide additional funding for this service.

In terms of the current level of funding provided, the Welsh Government provides funding for the salary costs of paramedics working on Air Ambulances.

Regards
Lesley

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