

Trustee's report

Introduction

This annual report for the Essex Ambulance Service Charitable Trust (Registered Number: 1061310) covers the period 1st April 2006 to 31st March 2007

Charity Structure Aims and Objectives

The Trustee of the Charitable Trust was the Trust Board of Essex Ambulance Service NHS Trust for 1 April 2006 to 30 June 2006. The directors of the Trustee in the course of the year were as follows:

Anthony Marsh
Keith Wood
Paul Leaman
Kim Nurse
Gill Bennett
Sheila Salmon (acting Chairman from 1 December 2006)
Ken Sharp
Edward Alport.

On the 1st July 2006 Essex Ambulance Service NHS Trust merged with the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Ambulance and Paramedic Service NHS Trust and East Anglian Ambulance Service NHS Trust to become the East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust. The Board of which became the Corporate Trustee of the Charitable funds from 1st July 2006.

Members of the East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust Board from 1st July 2006 to 31st March 2007 were:

Marisa Ball, Chair
Dr Chris Carney, Chief Executive
Anna Bennett, Deputy Chief Executive / Director of Finance, IM&T
Dr John Scott, Clinical Director
John Elliott, Director of HR and Organisation Development
Oskan Edwardson, Director of Operations
Paula Grayson, Non-Executive Director
Paul Remington, Non-Executive Director
Jagtar Singh, Non-Executive Director
Caroline Bailes, Non-Executive Director

The Charitable Trust is a general purpose trust fund established to support the work of the employees of the Trust. Key uses of funds donated to the Charitable Trust include the provision of training equipment, improving the work environment and rest facilities available to staff, and commemoration of the work of long or distinguished service employees. The funds received are managed under a single umbrella, with small accounts relating typically to individual ambulance stations. Where funds are received with restricted purpose, they are deployed in accordance with the wishes of the donor. There are currently no restricted funds.

Fundraising Activities and Associated Expenditure

Since the establishment of the Essex Air Ambulance Fund, the Charitable Trust has not actively engaged in fund-raising activities. Funds are normally received from

members of the public to recognise the work of the ambulance service. These donations are unsolicited. The Charitable Trust also receives some donations for training sessions undertaken voluntarily by employees of the Ambulance Trust. Accordingly there are no fund-raising costs.

Main Advisers

Banking and Investment	Barclays Bank plc 2, High Street Chelmsford CM1 1BG
Legal	Birkett Long Solicitors Essex House 42, Crouch Street Colchester CO3 3HH
External Auditors	PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP The Atrium St Georges Street Norwich NR3 1AG

Financial Review

The accounts on pages 1 to 4 show the activities of the Charitable Trust.

The decision taken by Trustees in 1997 to establish the Air Ambulance Charity resulted in a reduction in active fund-raising for other purposes. As a result the Charitable Trust is relatively inactive. In the course of the year the Charitable Trust received £8000 and the balance on the overall fund at 31st March 2007 was £54,000.

Statement on Risk

The Trustee has the overall responsibility for ensuring that the Charitable Trust has an appropriate system of financial and other controls. The systems of financial control are common to those operated for the Essex Ambulance Service NHS Trust. They are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include delegation of authority and segregation of duties.

The scale of the Charity does not warrant the development of a separate risk register. The Trustee will continue to monitor risks in conjunction with the Essex Ambulance Service NHS Trust process and will set-up or amend formal policies to mitigate these risks.

As the Trust has no long-term agreements or other commitments and generally operates on the basis of utilisation of funds already received the Trustee does not consider that there are significant risks associated with the operation of the Charitable Trust.

Policies on Reserves and Investments

The Trustee recognises that funds should not be held indefinitely. Funds are held only for the purpose of establishing a balance to meet future likely expenditure.

Charity Offices

The charity can be contacted at its registered office:

Ambulance Headquarters
Broomfield
Chelmsford
Essex
CM1 7WS

Approved by the Trustee on 26th September 2007

Signed on its behalf by

Chair

Trustee