



Agenda Item
5.1

Joint Commissioning Committee

Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service Update (EMRTS)

Dyddiad y Cyfarfod / Date of Meeting	27/01/2026
Statws Cyhoeddi / Publication Status	Open/ Public
	Not Applicable
Awdur yr Adroddiad / Report Author	Ross Whitehead, Director of Commissioning Ambulance Services & 111
Cyflwynydd yr Adroddiad / Report Presenter	Ross Whitehead, Director of Commissioning Ambulance Services & 111
Noddwr yr Adroddiad / Report Sponsor	Ross Whitehead, Director of Commissioning for Ambulance Services and 111

Pwrpas yr Adroddiad / Report Purpose	For Noting Choose an item.
---	-------------------------------

Engagement (internal/external) undertaken to date (including receipt/consideration at Committee/Group)

Committee / Group / Individuals	Date	Outcome
Senior Leadership Team	21/01/2026	Noted

Acronyms / Glossary of Terms

EMRTS	Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service
JC	Joint Commissioning Committee
NWJCC	NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee

1. SITUATION

In November 2025 the JC received an update on EMRTS following the conclusion of Judicial Review proceedings.

With the legal process now complete, the JC supported the resumption of work on Recommendation 4 of the EMRTS review.

2. SPECIFIC MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

Following the November meeting of the JC work has progressed in two areas.

The ambulance service is progressing a comprehensive review of rural service delivery, aligned to changes in the National Ambulance Performance Framework. This work will inform future emergency response models and will be key to the development of an updated proposal for Recommendation 4.

The Wales Air Ambulance Charity is making active plans to ensure continuity of the existing service while transition planning for a new base continues. This includes the possibility of extending current base arrangements in the short to medium term.

In December the Chair, Chief Commissioner and Director of Commissioning met with representatives of the campaign group to listen to their concerns and to ensure their perspectives were fully understood. The meeting provided an opportunity to clarify the current position, outline the steps being taken by both the NWJCC and partners, and discuss how future engagement would be structured as work on Recommendation 4 is revisited.

It is expected that further clarity on timelines associated with the reconfiguration of the EMRTS service will be available during February 2026.

3. KEY RISKS / MATTERS FOR ESCALATION

Whilst the legal process in relation to the decision made by the NWJCC in April 2024 has now ended, there is a risk of further legal challenge in relation to the implementation of the decision.

4. ASSESSMENT

Objectives / Strategy	
Dolen i Amcan (au) Strategol CBC / Link to JCC Strategic Objectives(s)	Maximise Value
	If more than one applies please list below:

Dolen i Ddeddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol – Nodau Llesiant / Link to Wellbeing of Future Generations Act – Wellbeing Goals 150623-guide-to-the-fg-act-en.pdf (futuregenerations.wales)	A Resilient Wales
	If more than one applies please list below:
Dolen i Hwyluswyr Ansawdd <i>(Canllawiau Statudol Dyletswydd Ansawdd (llyw.cymru)) /</i> Link to Enablers of Quality (Duty of Quality Statutory Guidance (gov.wales))	Whole-systems Perspective
	If more than one applies please list below:
Dolen i Feysydd Ansawdd <i>(Canllawiau Statudol Dyletswydd Ansawdd (llyw.cymru)) /</i> Link to Domains of Quality (Duty of Quality Statutory Guidance (gov.wales))	Effective
	If more than one applies please list below:
Effaith Amgylcheddol/ Cynaliadwyedd (5R) / Environmental /Sustainability Impact (5Rs)	No - Not Applicable
	If more than one applies please list below:

Impact Assessment		
Ansawdd <i>Ydych chi wedi ymgymryd â Sgrinio Asesiad o'r Effaith ar Ansawdd? /</i> Quality <i>Have you undertaken a Quality Impact Assessment Screening?</i>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Outcome:	If no, please include rationale below: Not applicable to this specific update report.

Cydraddoldeb <i>Ydych chi wedi ymgymryd â Sgrinio Aseiad o'r Effaith ar Gydraddoldeb? /</i> Equality <i>Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment Screening?</i>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Outcome:	If no, please include rationale below: Not applicable to this specific update report.
Cyfreithiol / Legal	Yes (Include further detail below)	
	Legal risks are outlined in the report	
Enw da / Reputational	Yes (Include further detail below)	
	This is a highly sensitive issue that has potential to impact the reputation of the NWJCC	
Effaith Adnoddau <i>(Pobl / Ariannol) /</i> Resource Impact <i>(People / Financial)</i>	Yes (Include further detail below)	
	Work on this area has a significant impact on the capacity of the ambulance and 111 commissioning team, impacting other areas of work	

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

The members of the Joint Commissioning Committee are asked to:

- **Discuss** and **Note** the content of the report.

6. NEXT STEPS

To revisit the delivery of Recommendation 4 as part of the NWJCC Integrated Medium-Term Plan development.