



## Wiltshire Air Ambulance Fact File

- Wiltshire Air Ambulance Charitable Trust is a registered charity providing an essential Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) in Wiltshire and surrounding areas, including Bath.
- Wiltshire Air Ambulance began operating on 15 March 1990 and the helicopter and crew have saved countless lives. The charity shared a helicopter with Wiltshire Police for 24 years. It began operating as a stand-alone air ambulance on 9 January 2015, using a Bell 429 helicopter.
- Wiltshire Air Ambulance is a charity and relies on donations to continue flying and saving lives. The charity receives no regular direct funding from the Government or National Lottery grants. It costs £3.75 million a year to operate our lifesaving service, that's just over £10,000 per day.
- Wiltshire Air Ambulance's paramedics are trained in critical care skills and, together with the specialist medical equipment they use, it enables them to deliver gold standard medical care to patients.
- Wiltshire Air Ambulance is operational up to 19 hours a day, 365 days a year and is called to, on average, three incidents a day in its helicopter and two Rapid Response Vehicles (cars).
- In 2020 Wiltshire Air Ambulance was called to 1,238 incidents, a record number since becoming a stand-alone service.
- The largest number of incidents that Wiltshire Air Ambulance responded to in 2020 were in the Swindon area (194), equivalent to a call out, on average, every two days. The next highest cities and towns included Salisbury (96), Bath (80) and Chippenham (79).
- Around one-third of all incidents responded to in 2020 were cardiac emergencies (383), with 208 road traffic collisions and 178 falls also recorded. There were 64 sporting incident, including 34 from horse riding injuries.
- Wiltshire Air Ambulance moved into its airbase in Semington, near Trowbridge, in May 2018, with the official opening by the charity's Patron, HRH The Duchess of Cornwall on 14 December 2018. From this central site the helicopter can reach anywhere in the county within 11 minutes.
- For more information about Wiltshire Air Ambulance go to [www.wiltshireairambulance.co.uk](http://www.wiltshireairambulance.co.uk)