

**Patients' Forum Ambulance Services (London) Ltd
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 2008**

December 31st 2008

Company Registration Number 6013086

Patients' Forum Ambulance Services (London) Ltd

Report and financial statement for the year ended 31st December 2008

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statement for the year ended 31st December 2008.

Incorporation

The company which was incorporated on November 29th 2006 under the Companies Act 1985 is a not-for-profit private company limited by guarantee, with no share capital, registered with the name of Patients' Forum Ambulance Services (London) Ltd. Its Memorandum and Articles of Association are in the model format for a charitable company as issued by the Charity Commission. Its objectives and activities are those of a small unregistered charity, as described more fully in this report. The nature of the company's business is covered by the classification code categories: 8514 - Other human health activities and 9133 - Other membership organisations.

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the company are its Trustees for the purpose of Charity law. As provided in the Articles of Association, the directors have the power to appoint additional directors.

The Trustees who have served during the year and since are:

Malcolm Alexander
Mary Arayo
Anne Blanche
Michael English
Dr Joseph Healy
Saleha Jaffer
John Larkin
Mark Mitten
John Murphy
Louisa Roberts
Robin Standing
Rev Sister Josephine Udie
Dr Lena Wanford

Patients' Forum Ambulance Services (London) Ltd comprises members of the public including patients and carers. The office of the Patients' Forum is located in London.

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Objects of Patients' Forum Ambulance Services (London) Ltd

The Company was formed by members of the original Patients' Forum for the London Ambulance Service as a not-for-profit company with exclusively charitable objects. The Company is committed to act for the public benefit through its pursuit of wholly charitable initiatives comprising:

- (i) The advancement of health or the saving of lives, including the prevention or relief of sickness, disease or human suffering; and
- (ii) The promotion of the efficiency and effectiveness of ambulance services,

and the company is dedicated to the pursuit of its objects as a small unregistered charity with a view to registration with the Charity Commission as and when appropriate.

Vision Statement

The Patients' Forum is an unregistered charity that promotes the provision of ambulance services and other health services which meet the needs of people who either live in London or use services provided in London.

The Charity will influence the development of better emergency health care and improvement of patient transport services by speaking up for patients and by promoting and encouraging excellence.

Mission Statement

- (1) We will optimise existing working arrangements with London Ambulance Service (LAS).
- (2) We will work with existing networks that champion patients' and users' groups.
- (3) We will continue to develop our stroke campaign by approaching all stakeholders (PCTs, OSC, Trusts) and petitioning for a generic and consistent approach to service provision.
- (4) We will work to put in place an effective system for patients and carers with hearing disabilities to communicate with the ambulance staff.
- (5) We will develop a policy which would make Patient Transport Service compulsory to a standard level across the country.
- (6) We will carry out research to discover what happened to the 25% of the population who could not get an ambulance in eight minutes following a Category A call.

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(7) We will work with partners to develop services for the care and transport of people with severe mental health problems and their carers that respect their wishes. The Charity will be sensitive to their vulnerability, safety, culture and the gravity of their situation.

(8) We will work with the LAS to develop effective protocols, to respect the wishes of patients with Advance Directives, to ensure that their care is provided in accordance with their prior decisions.

(9) We will work with the LAS Diversity and Human Resources Departments to develop a work force which reflects the ethnic diversity of communities across London.

(10) We will work with the LAS Diversity and Training Departments to promote effective training of all LAS front line staff in diversity and race equality in the shortest possible time.

(11) We will work with the LAS, other Ambulance Services, NHS, Trusts and developing countries to promote access to resources that will assist countries to achieve their Millennium Development Goals.

Activities and achievements

Early in the year ended 31 December 2008, the Company was initially in substantially preparatory mode in readiness for the statutory termination of the previously statutorily-created Patients' Forum for the London Ambulance Service. The Company had been incorporated in anticipation of national changes introduced by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 which abolished all statutory Patients' Forums with effect from March 31st 2008 and moved towards establishing Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) during 2008.

During the previous four years, the statutory Patients' Forum had successfully monitored the London Ambulance Service and had formed links with other Forums, the voluntary sector, Primary Care Trusts, local authorities, Members of Parliament and the Strategic Health Authority for London, as well as forming links with patients, patients' groups and the public.

More than a year before the abolition of the statutory Forums on 31 March 2008, our members had already decided to carry on our highly effective work. Accordingly, since 1st April 2008, duly perpetuated and established as a corporate body in the voluntary sector, we have continued with our monitoring of ambulance services, continuing to work with the London Ambulance Service and other health bodies in London and beyond, liaising with LINKs and ensuring that a body of experienced people exist who can be highly effective at monitoring

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health services. By our proactive rejection of the Government's plan to abolish our Forum and curtail our work we have successfully continued to exercise our commitment to supporting and influencing the development of high quality health services, emergency care and patients' transport services.

During the year the Company invited and received a constructive letter of mutual recognition and understanding from the Chief Executive of the London Ambulance Service, in confirmation and furtherance of the good working arrangements which characterise the relationship between the London Ambulance Service and the Forum.

Our plan is to expand and to seek to raise funds to support our charitable activities and to continue to meet in public to support and to influence the development of patient centred ambulance and other health services that meet public need. Members from across London and affiliates from all parts of the UK are very welcome to join us.

Members and Affiliates

All the Trustees are members of the Company. During the year ended 31 December 2008 the Company also enrolled several other members of the Company. Each member guarantees, in accordance with the Company's Memorandum of Association, to contribute up to £10 to the assets of the Company in the event of a winding up.

Membership is open to individuals who are London based. Members are entitled to attend meetings of the Company, and to vote thereat. The annual membership fee is £5. New members are welcome to join.

Affiliation is open to groups/organisations and to individuals, both local and national. Affiliates are fully entitled to attend meetings of the Company but not to vote thereat. The annual Affiliation fee for groups/organisations is £50. The annual Affiliation fee for individuals is £5. New affiliates are welcome to join.

This report was approved by the Trustees on----- 2009
and is signed on their behalf by:

Malcolm Alexander
Director/Chair

John Larkin
Director/Company Secretary

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Income and Expenditure Account

For the year ended 31 December 2008

	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total £
<u>Incoming Resources</u>			
Grants	-	-	-
Donations	-	41	41
Membership fees	-	100	100
Affiliation fees	-	10	10
Investment income	-	6	6
Other	-	44	44
Total incoming resources		201	201
<u>Resources expended</u>			
Companies House	-	30	30
Incidental administrative expenses	-	12	12
Total resources expended		42	42
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for year	-	159	159
Total funds brought forward	-	127	127
Total funds carried forward		286	286

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Balance Sheet

31 December 2008

	£	£
Fixed assets		-
Current assets		
-debtors	-	
-cash in bank	286	
-cash in hand	-	
	286	
Creditors		
-amounts falling due within one year	-	
Net current assets		286
Total assets less current liabilities		286
Reserves		
-restricted funds		-
-unrestricted funds		286
		286

Notes

1. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part VII of the Companies Act 1985.
2. For the year ended 31 December 2008 the Company was entitled to exemption under Section 249A(1) of the Companies Act 1985.
3. No notice from members requiring an audit of the accounts has been deposited under Section 249B(2) of the Companies Act 1985.
4. The Directors acknowledge their responsibility under the Companies Act 1985 for:
 - (i) ensuring the Company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 221; and
 - (ii) preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company as at the end of its financial year, and of its income and expenditure for the financial year in accordance with Section 226, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the Company.
5. Patients' Forum Ambulance Services (London) Limited is a registered Company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital; it is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is an unregistered charity whose income is currently insufficient to fulfil the criteria for compulsory registration with the Charity Commission.

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and is signed on their behalf by:

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Malcolm Alexander
Director/Chair

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Director/Company Secretary

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