

Staff recognised in Queen's Birthday Honours



Two members of our staff have been recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

Our Medical Director Fionna Moore, who has worked for the Service for 15 years, was awarded an MBE for services to the NHS and emergency services.

Paramedic Kevin Walker, who has over 40 years' service with us, received a BEM, which rewards local service.

Helen Mirren celebrates work of life-saving volunteers



Actress Dame Helen Mirren has presented awards to volunteer life-savers at a special ceremony at City Hall.

The event recognised people who give up their time to help respond to patients as part of our Voluntary Responder Group. Community and emergency responders have life-saving skills and volunteer alongside our ambulance crews. They can start giving life-saving care to patients almost immediately, giving them a better chance of survival.

Six members of the charity were rewarded for their commitment to saving lives from 73 nominations.

[Read more about the event.](#)

Petition to Downing Street



We were part of a campaign group that visited No 10 Downing Street to hand over a petition calling for defibrillators in schools.

Over 8,000 people have signed the petition started by the cardiac charity SADS UK.

The Service's Community Defibrillation Officer Martin Bullock, who went to Downing Street, said: "Defibrillators should be in every public building, including all schools. In 2011 in London, 56 people died from a fire compared to 10,000 people who suffered an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest, yet fire extinguishers are statutory and defibrillators are not."

[Find out more about why we think defibrillators should be placed in schools.](#)

Robert McFarland joins the board

A new associate non-executive director has been appointed to the Service's board of directors.

Robert McFarland was a consultant general and vascular surgeon for over 20 years and Clinical Director for Trauma and Emergency Surgery at St George's Hospital before he recently retired.

He said: "The organisation provides an excellent emergency service to our capital city and I am very pleased to be able to join the team at an exciting time as we develop and respond to new challenges."



[Read more about Robert's appointment.](#)



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