

## Chief Executive announces departure



Chief Executive Peter Bradley announced that he is to leave the Service later this year to take up the post of Chief Executive of St John in New Zealand – a role that will include running the ambulance service.

Peter, who has led our Service for 12 years, said that he has been privileged to lead such a great organisation. He will leave for New Zealand after the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

[Read more about Peter's announcement.](#)

## 999 response change



Ambulance services are to have up to an extra 60 seconds to get information about a patient's condition before they respond to a 999 call.

The change will lead to fewer ambulance crews being cancelled on the way to calls. At present one ambulance in five is cancelled as it becomes clear when more information is taken that they are not needed. Our most critically ill and injured patients will continue to be sent both a single clinician in a car and an ambulance crew immediately.

[Find out more about the changes to the way ambulance resources will be dispatched.](#)

## Testing our readiness for the Games



We hosted an exercise earlier this month which brought together ambulance staff from across the country to test our response to a range of incidents ahead of the Games.

The scenarios – which were supported by other agencies including the Metropolitan Police Service, London Fire Brigade and the RNLI – included patients on a boat on the River Thames, and others needing treatment at the top of scaffolding and rescuing from under rubble. We also used our deployment centre for the first time to manage the attendance of staff at test events taking place at Games venues.

[Read more about our exercise to test our readiness for the Games.](#)

## Busiest ever weekday for our Service

A day in May went on record as our busiest ever weekday, as staff responded to 29 per cent more patients with life-threatening illnesses and injuries than in the previous week.

On 22 May, we received 5,310 emergency calls, of which 1,345 were Category A (life-threatening) calls. As temperatures started to climb, the biggest increase in these calls related to respiratory and cardiac problems.



[Read more about the unprecedented demand on our Service.](#)

## Crew praised by Hollywood star



A story that captured headlines across the world this month was that of an ambulance crew who, with help from Hollywood star Dustin Hoffman, saved the life of a man who collapsed and stopped breathing while out jogging.

The 27-year-old patient went into cardiac arrest as the Fulham crew arrived on scene; they were able to resuscitate him using CPR and a shock from a defibrillator. Dustin Hoffman, who had waited with the patient, acknowledged their good work.

[Find out more on this story.](#)



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