



East Midlands Ambulance Service **NHS**  
NHS Trust

Emergency Care | Urgent Care | We Care

## Nottinghamshire Division Seasonal Plan 2016-17

Date: 10 January 2017



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## Key Issues

1. Increase in emergency, urgent and hospital admissions/discharges/call demand
2. Availability of fleet and equipment for additional resources
3. Increase in hospital turnaround times
4. Increase to staff sickness levels and absences
5. Outbreak of pandemic influenza/infectious disease (e.g. noro-virus)
6. Adverse weather



## Increase in demand

- Use activity prediction tool and plan resource output to adjusted levels
- Plan core and additional managerial cover across the Christmas period.
- Ensure maximum coverage from Community First Responders (CFRs) and Emergency Fire Responders (EFRs) during high activity for two week period over Christmas and New Year.
- Identify and promote care pathways that are available over the seasonal period.
- Proactively manage hospital turnaround and mobilization times, initialising the HALO role if appropriate.
- Utilise support from other EMAS teams eg, Events team and clinical education staff support.



## Fleet and equipment

- Equipment – The Division will create central stock of spare equipment at each of the two locality HUB's (Beechdale and Kingsmill), to maintain a capability to deploy additional resources.
- The output of the Make Ready function needs to be maximised to avoid down time of vehicles for deep cleaning.
- Ensure fleet (mechanic) availability over the seasonal planning period, including bank holiday / weekend working arrangements and on-call



## Increase in hospital turnaround times

- Management team to attend acute units in order to support and encourage turnaround times.
- Light duties members of staff to be identified to be placed at acute hospitals to support turnaround of crews.
- Senior team to take appropriate action based upon capacity level
- Encourage the use of Paramedic Pathfinder and alternative care pathways in order to prevent unnecessary admissions and appropriately clinically safety net the patient





## Increase to staff sickness levels

- Managers to proactively manage sickness absence and return to work interviews in line with Divisional Sickness Absence Management Policy
- Proactively monitor and manage abstractions from core rotas.



# Outbreak of pandemic influenza

- Refer to the EMAS 'Influenza Pandemic – UK Contingency and Business Continuity Planning' plan.
- Help to minimise cross contamination with continual use of aseptic techniques both whilst operational and within food preparation areas.
- Notification of infectious disease outbreaks in the community.



## Adverse weather

- Road networks become hazardous due to severe weather conditions, thereby leaving some areas inaccessible and potential disruption to logistics/ support services function adverse weather.
- Issue to crews severe weather packs (flasks, energy bars etc.)
- Organise 4x4 availability to both get staff to stations and to respond to patients
- Ensure adequate supplies of salt / grit, anti-freeze, de-icers, screen wash, snow tyre chains, snow shovels etc. are available at station level. NB all ambulances have all weather tyres on them.
- Arrange for County/ Borough Council to grit stations.