

**LONDON AMBULANCE SERVICE NHS TRUST  
VEHICLE & EQUIPMENT WORKING GROUP  
11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2008  
FIELDEN HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM  
13.00 – 17.00**

**Present :**

<b>Chris Vale</b>	<b>Head of Operational Support</b>	<b>Bow</b>
<b>Colin Jolly</b>	<b>Fleet Design Manager</b>	<b>Greenwich</b>
<b>Andy Young</b>	<b>Project Manager – Logistics</b>	<b>Bow</b>
<b>David Selwood</b>	<b>Corporate Logistics Manager</b>	<b>Bow</b>
<b>Simon Parker</b>	<b>Fleet Support Manager</b>	<b>Croydon</b>
<b>David Haylett</b>	<b>Staff Side Representative</b>	<b>Woolwich</b>
<b>John Winnister</b>	<b>Staff Side Representative</b>	<b>Croydon</b>
<b>Paul Stewart</b>	<b>Staff Side Representative</b>	<b>Pinner</b>
<b>Lynn Sugg</b>	<b>Olympic Games Planning Office</b>	<b>Pocock Street</b>
<b>Andy Street</b>	<b>Safety &amp; Risk Advisor</b>	<b>Pocock Street</b>
<b>Gary Ralph</b>	<b>Practise Learning Manager</b>	<b>Iford</b>
<b>Graham Chalk</b>	<b>Special Response Coordinator</b>	<b>Waterloo</b>
<b>Steve Melhuish</b>	<b>Corporate Fleet Manager</b>	<b>Bow</b>
<b>Nick Pope</b>	<b>Fleet Projects Manager</b>	<b>Greenwich</b>

**Apologies :**

<b>Eddie Brand</b>	<b>Karen Walling</b>	<b>Dave Smith</b>
<b>Ian Lee</b>	<b>John Selby</b>	<b>Dave Whitmore</b>
<b>Jane Worthington</b>		

<b>ITEM</b>		<b>ACTION</b>
<b>110/08</b>	<b><u>Apologies for Absence</u></b> See above. JW wished Ian Lee a speedy recovery on behalf of all VEWG members.	
<b>111/08</b>	<b><u>Previous Minutes</u></b> Minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2008 were agreed as a true record.	
<b>112/08</b>	<b><u>Matters Arising</u></b> <b><u>112.01 Torn Seats (55/05)</u></b> DS to check the catalogue to see if any seat covers are available to cover torn seats.  <b><u>112.02 Make Ready/ Tail Lift Operation Bars (72/08)</u></b> Tail Lift Operation bars are now available. Fleet Support Managers will distribute replacements to Workshops. A bulletin to be issued to clarify procedure.  <b><u>112.03 Airwave Bulletin 90/08</u></b> GC confirmed that Airwave has been fitted to all MRU's	<b>DS</b>     <b>SM</b>

113/08	<b><u>Alternative Response Steering Group (Standing Item)</u></b> NP informed the Group that the last meeting was postponed.	
114/08	<b><u>Risk (Standing Item)</u></b> There were no updates.	
115/08	<b><u>Manual Handling Implementation Group (Standing Item)</u></b> The next meeting will be held at the end of January 2009.	
116/18	<b><u>Ambulance Procurement Update (Standing Item)</u></b> NP informed the Group that UVM has been awarded the contract . There will be a meeting at UVM on 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2009 to finalise any changes on Automatic Steps, Rear Doors, Layout of Cab and Critical Care Equipment stowage. A prototype is now in production. GR asked that the time scales and requirement for training on new vehicles be fully considered and planned.	
117/08	<b><u>RRU Procurement Update (Standing Item)</u></b> CV advised the Group that there will be no more RRU procurement this financial year. There are, however another 30 due in the next financial year to replace existing vehicles. GC informed the Group that another 12 ST1300 MRU's have been ordered and are currently being brought up to the correct specification. Safety testing has taken place at a proving ground and there were no issues. The current bike specification was being updated. The Group noted the position and agreed the specification could proceed. CV advised that a sub-group has been established to prepare a new MRU specification. This has representation from Fleet, MRU users, H & S and staff side.	
118/08	<b><u>Bariatric Vehicle Update (Standing Item)</u></b> NP said that 3 vehicles are on order. No progress can be made with the design until the results of the Trolley bed trial have been completed. LS asked if the size of the vehicles would present a problem. NP confirmed that they are the same size as the current PTS vehicles.	
119/08	<b><u>Carry Chair Update (Standing Item)</u></b> CV advised there is no update on this item, but allowances have been made in the new vehicle specification should a mechanised version be adopted in future.	
120/08	<b><u>Trolley Bed Update (Standing Item)</u></b> AY made a presentation on the Stryker Trolley Bed Trial and Evaluation. The trial took place at 7 A&E complexes and at 2 PTS sites. Stryker have made a commitment to have a prototype with the revised	

	<p>oxygen holder ready by early January. The overall result of the trial was in favour of the trolley bed. The bed had been evaluated in comparison to the Pegasus Trolley Bed.</p> <p>Possible changes include : V shaped mattress – difficult to slide patients on and also difficult to clean. An alternative mattress is being investigated. IV poles - the 3 side option has been recommended. Crash testing – No written report has been received yet, but the results have been satisfactory.</p> <p>Station and Vehicle based battery management system were trialled and had been successful. GR said that the User Guide should be re-issued and that it should include battery management details.</p> <p>The VEWG Group supported the purchase of the Stryker Trolley Bed. This recommendation will be passed to the tender evaluation group.</p>	
121/08	<p><b><u>PTS Issues (Standing Item)</u></b> NP told the Group that the PTS VEWG met a fortnight ago. 25 Stretcher Vehicles will be available in the early part of next year. 5 are due to be signed off in the first week in January. He also confirmed that map books were essential on PTS vehicles as there is no Satellite Navigation on them. DS commented that funding for more map books has been rejected again. DS to follow up again.</p>	DS
122/08	<p><b><u>Equipment Approval Group (Standing Item)</u></b> DS stated that this group had not met. A replacement Microvent needs to be considered. He added that there is not enough time for a lengthy trial and asked for a PASA agreed alternative to be purchased without a trial. PS requested that DS gets feed back from other services regarding an alternative.</p> <p><b><u>122.01 Pneupac Resuscitator (103/08)</u></b> An alternative is being considered.</p> <p><b><u>122.02 EMMA Emergency Capnometer (23/08)</u></b> DS to get alternative suggestion from Mark Whitbread.</p> <p><b><u>122.03 Scoop Stretcher</u></b> The current Scoop Stretcher is not suitable from an Infection Control point of view. Ferno have an alternative. DS to consider alternatives for approval by the group.</p>	<p>DS</p> <p>DS</p> <p>DS</p> <p>DS</p>

123/08	<b>ECP Update (Standing Item)</b> No update	
124/08	<b>Review Of LAS Equipment Bags</b> This is dependant on funding. AY is working on a project reviewing current equipment bags. He showed a sample to replace the Primary and Resuscitation Bags. The Resus bag has the oxygen holder incorporated into the bag. JW liked the sample but commented that it would be more suited to FRU's. In the short term the Group agreed that the current oxygen barrel bag should be squared off.	
125/08	<b>Any Other Business</b> JW commented that the speakers in cabs need repositioning. JW to get together with SM to discuss further.  DS told the group he was leaving LAS and that this would be his last VEWG meeting. CV thanked DS for his significant contribution. The Group wished him well for the future.  NP stated that the Zafira storage boxes have been removed on the relevant vehicles and replaced with a shelf and dog guard. This will be ongoing until all vehicles have been adapted. 6 RRU Driver Training Units are in the process of being purchased.	<b>JW/SM</b>
<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b> <b>THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2009</b> <b>13.00 – 17.00</b> <b>CONFERENCE ROOM HQ</b>		