



House of Commons  
London SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Rachel Reeves MP  
Chancellor of the Exchequer  
HM Treasury  
The Correspondence & Enquiry unit  
1 Horse Guards Road  
London  
SW1A 2HQ

19 November 2024

Dear Chancellor of the Exchequer,

**Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance, HEMS Way, Bracebridge Heath, LN4 2GW**

We are writing in support of Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance (LNAA) regarding the increases to employer National Insurance contributions and the devastating impact of this decision for air ambulance charities.

Air ambulance charities like LNAA are vitally important to our rural communities and regional healthcare services. The charity's purpose is to take an emergency department directly to the scene of some of the most serious incidents in Lincolnshire & Nottinghamshire in often rural, remote places. The hard-working team of doctors and paramedics carry out procedures such as delivering anaesthetics, emergency blood transfusions and administration of advanced pain relief – procedures usually only possible in a hospital. The crew at LNAA support on average 4 potentially life-saving missions a day, 365 days of the year, and they have just completed their 30,000<sup>th</sup> mission.

The charity receives no government or NHS funding for their daily missions.

The charity is registered with the Care Quality Commission and, as an independent healthcare charity, they add significant value to our National Health Service. The team provide advanced pre-hospital critical care which gives patients the best chance of survival and recovery. We have seen the pride and care the team take in providing critical services to the region and they are highly regarded by our local communities.

The Chancellor's decision to increase employer National Insurance contributions and to lower the threshold at which such contributions are paid is therefore a devastating blow to LNAA and the community they serve. Karen Jobling, the Chief Executive of LNAA, has confirmed that the effect that this decision alone will have on their charity will amount to an increase in costs of £70,000 per annum.

The decision to hit this crucial life-saving charity with such a financial burden is fundamentally counter-productive, particularly when considering the value they bring to the NHS. An exemption would be in line with other NHS hospital trusts and bodies and is the right thing to do when considering their tireless support to our constituents across Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire.

We therefore urge you to exempt LNAA and indeed all other air ambulance charities from the rise in employer National Insurance contributions to ensure these crucial services, which any one of us may need at any time, are maintained.

Yours sincerely,



**Dr Caroline Johnson MP**

*Sleaford and North Hykeham*

**The Rt Hon Sir John Hayes CBE MP**

*South Holland and The Deepings*

**The Rt Hon Sir Edward Leigh MP**

*Gainsborough*

**Gareth Davies MP**

*Grantham and Bourne*

**Richard Tice MP**

*Boston and Skegness*

**The Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP**

*Newark*

**The Rt Hon Victoria Atkins MP**

*Louth and Horncastle*

**Alicia Kearns MP**

*Rutland and Stamford*