



Ein cyf/Our ref WQ96799

Darren Millar MS
Member of the Senedd for Clwyd West

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10 July 2025

Dear Darren,

I am replying to WQ96799: Will the Cabinet Minister confirm whether the prioritisation of electric and hybrid vehicles in the Welsh Government's five-year Welsh ambulance services fleet strategy was independently found to be the most cost-effective option available?

The Welsh Ambulance Services University NHS Trust (WAST) submitted an updated five-year fleet strategy 2025-30 to the Welsh Government. It also submits business justification cases every year as part of its vehicle replacement programme. The programme mainly replaces vehicles, which have reached the end of their life to ensure business continuity and limit the time vehicles are unavailable due to repairs. This financial year, the Welsh Government provided £22.4m for 140 vehicles.

The business justification case is influenced by the ambulance's response strategy with appropriate input from the fleet management team, to ensure the right mix of vehicle types are available. The ambulance service operates a range of vehicles, not just rapid response vehicles and emergency ambulances. The team in the Welsh Ambulance Service works closely with other ambulance trusts throughout the UK about the appropriateness and suitability of electric and hybrid vehicles.

As part of the move to reduce emissions and support net zero when procuring new vehicles, the ambulance service examines the latest available technology. The annual replacement programme business justification case reflects this and considers hybrid and electric vehicles and any other options. The most important criteria are cost, reliability and business continuity.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Miles AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care

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We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.