



London's  
Air Ambulance  
Charity

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# London's Air Ambulance Charity

## Saving time, saving lives

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How would you like to fly over The Shard on your commute to work?





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**Job title:**

Pilot, paramedic, doctor or fire crew.

**Essential skills:**

Must work well in teams and remain calm under pressure; clear-thinking, resilient, highly-trained, an excellent communicator.

**Mission:** to save lives.





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This is your commute to work.

**Location:** Your helipad is on the roof of the Royal London Hospital, Whitechapel, London, 17 floors above street level. The view is amazing!

**Destination:** as yet unknown.

Someone, somewhere needs help and is about to call the emergency services.

You are about to join your team to scramble into action.





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**The Mission Map shows how many patients were treated by the team across London in 2021.**

**Workplace:** You could be sent on a mission anywhere inside this area.

Look at the position of the green arrow.

Your helipad is here, at the Royal London Hospital. Postcode: E1 1FR.

# Is that North or South of the River Thames?

What is the name of the motorway that runs around London?





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Here is your vehicle, serviced and maintained by engineers at RAF Northolt, which is 6 miles North of Heathrow.

It is ready for emergency medical treatment of any residents or workers within those 2600 square miles.

The helicopter is ready to take off within 4 minutes of receiving a call.

What equipment will need to be safely stored on board?

What crew members will be needed before take-off?





Your life-saving kit is perfectly packed; every item is checked and has a special place. Your orange medical rucksack is known as a 'THOMAS PACK' and weighs approximately 15kg.

**Your equipment will include:** safety helmets, a stretcher, sterile surgical instruments, 'O negative' blood for transfusions, anaesthesia, specialist major incident response equipment, resuscitation machines, medication and a special device to help stop bleeding. All of this equipment can be used at the roadside.

**Your team will include:**

**Two pilots:**

one flying and a co-pilot navigating.

**Three medics:**

at least 1 senior doctor, a senior paramedic and, usually, a senior consultant too.

**Two ground-based aviation Fire Officers:** responsible for take-off and landing safety, aircraft safety, fire prevention and helipad safety.



This is one of the fire crew who ensure that all emergency teams, their patients and their vehicles **stay safe at all times**. Although they do not fly in the helicopter, they are important members of the team.

All crew are experienced and highly qualified.

Try to imagine having a job like this.

Which of your own personal qualities would be helpful?

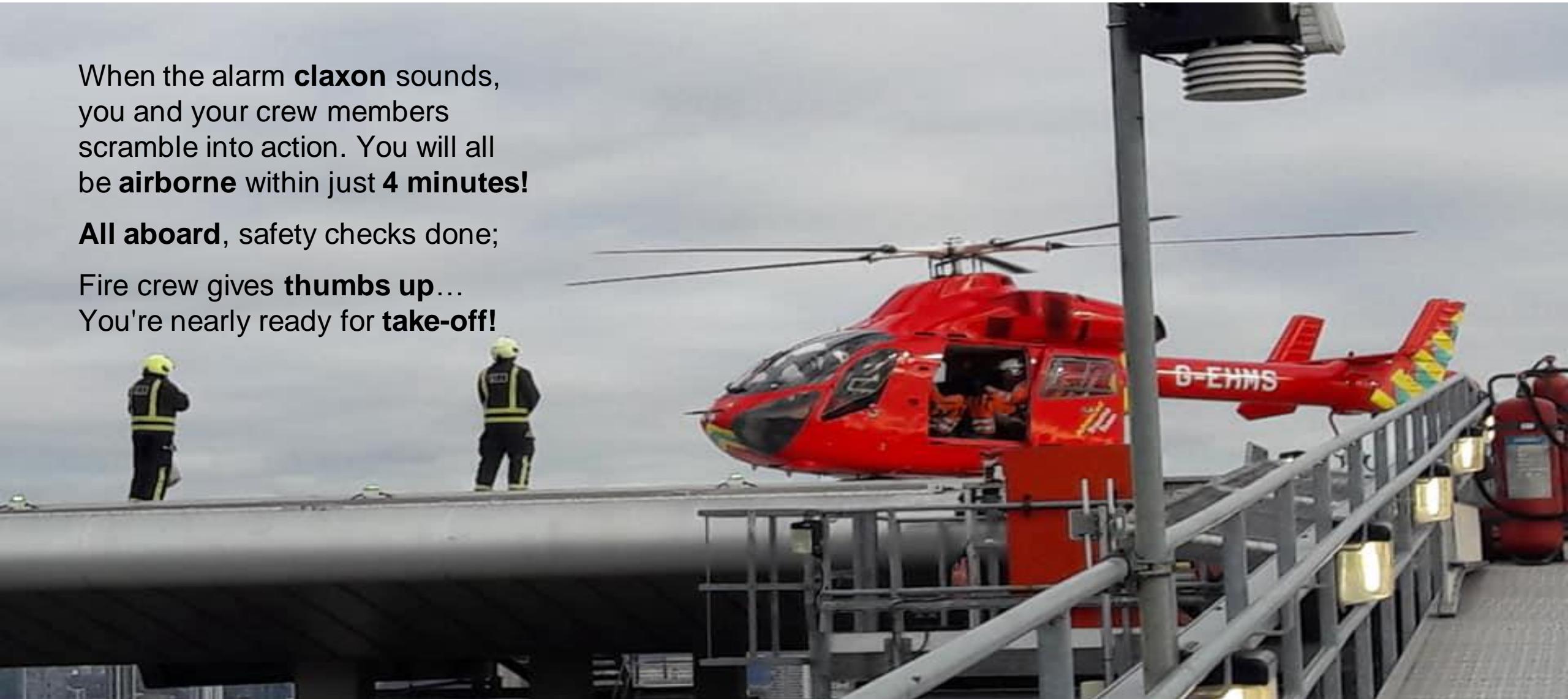
Are there areas which you might need to try to improve?





When the alarm **claxon** sounds,  
you and your crew members  
scramble into action. You will all  
be **airborne** within just **4 minutes!**

**All aboard**, safety checks done;  
Fire crew gives **thumbs up**...  
You're nearly ready for **take-off!**





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The medics fasten their **seat belts**, the pilot starts the **engine**, the co-pilot checks the **navigation** instruments, the **rotors spin**... and you're off!





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The average speed of road traffic in London is 9mph (miles per hour).

The top speed of the helicopter is 160mph.

When someone is critically injured, speed counts. Speed saves lives!

Taking the hospital to the patient by air saves vital time and is an efficient way of getting specialist support to the scene.

Can you remember how many minutes it has been since the alarm first sounded?





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## City Hall

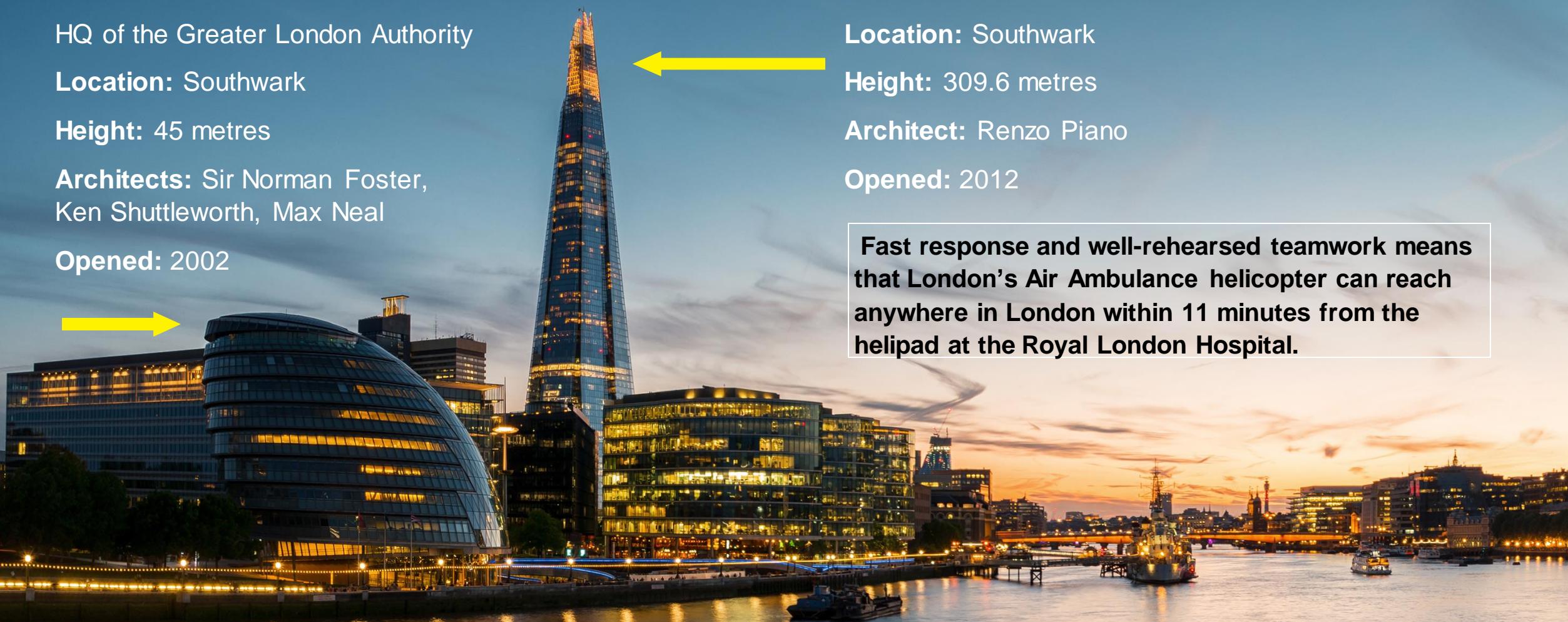
HQ of the Greater London Authority

**Location:** Southwark

**Height:** 45 metres

**Architects:** Sir Norman Foster,  
Ken Shuttleworth, Max Neal

**Opened:** 2002



## Spot The Shard!

**Location:** Southwark

**Height:** 309.6 metres

**Architect:** Renzo Piano

**Opened:** 2012

Fast response and well-rehearsed teamwork means that London's Air Ambulance helicopter can reach anywhere in London within 11 minutes from the helipad at the Royal London Hospital.



London's Air Ambulance  
**helicopters** can land anywhere in  
London as their important missions  
save thousands of lives.

They can manoeuvre into small  
spaces and can land in an area  
the size of a tennis court.

They have even landed at  
Buckingham Palace and Trafalgar  
Square in the Borough of  
Westminster, on bridges across  
the River Thames, in London  
parks and in **school playgrounds**.

Have you ever seen the  
helicopter land?





## Mission Accomplished!

Another patient with life-threatening injuries is brought to the Royal London Hospital by the London's Air Ambulance team.

Critical injury from falls, road traffic accidents, assaults and other accidents is the biggest killer of people under 40.

London's Air Ambulance Charity helps keep over **10 million people** in London safe; the crews have treated over **40,000 patients** since 1989.





## Rapid Response Vehicles

Used at night-time or when weather conditions mean it's unsafe to fly the helicopters.

These Skoda Octavia cars have plenty of boot space for all the life-saving equipment needed.

This service is active 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (or 366 in a leap year)!

**On board:** a senior doctor, who navigates, and a senior paramedic, who drives. Sometimes, a consultant is on board too. The blue lights help to drive safely through the traffic.





## London's Air Ambulance Charity

It costs **£11 million** a year to run the charity.

Average cost per mission is **£2080**.

Barts Health NHS Trust and London Ambulance Service pay the salaries of the doctors and paramedics. The majority of our service's running costs are covered by funds raised by the Charity.

London's Air Ambulance Charity needs to raise approximately **£8.2 million** each year.

Schools, youth groups and organisations can organise fundraising activities, fairs or sales, donate stamps or coins, and raise awareness through friends, parents and social media.

Lots of people volunteer their time to raise funds for London's Air Ambulance Charity or nominate us as their charity of the year.

**Make an Impact:** What could you do to help support this vital charity?





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