

# TASKING IN THE LAKE DISTRICT: GREAT NORTH AIR AMBULANCE AIDE MEMOIR



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## Introduction

- The Great North Air Ambulance Service (GNAAS) currently tasks to rural and remote areas in the Lake District.
- Tasking in this area presents a unique set of challenges that are often not faced in urban, industrialised areas.
- GNAAS attend annual Mountain Rescue Team (MRT) training days with live exercises to simulate some of the difficulties faced by MRT teams accessing and treating patients

## Aims

- To create an aide memoir for the air desk and GNAAS team highlighting specific areas within the Lake District where high fidelity incidents are likely to occur.
- To educate the tasking team on the logistical differences when tasking to remote and rural areas.

## Methods

- A group of senior PHEM clinicians with extensive knowledge of the Lake District and mountain rescue collectively created a list of 'hot spots' where early tasking should be considered.
- The group felt that rock climbing, paraglider, cycling incidents were worth highlighting along with specific walking routes where injury is often severe.
- A guide of MRT call time to arrival on scene was felt helpful as gives an indication whether early updates are possible.
- Multiple drafts following a local presentation, rediscussion of locations and early dispatch considerations have led to the final design seen opposite

## Conclusion

- Tasking to the Lake District will always present difficulties due to the location, communication challenges, limited resources and environmental factors not routinely considered when tasking to urban areas.
- This aide memoir is an ongoing piece of work that will be edited according to peer feedback and regular incidents within the Lake District.
- Initial feedback from clinicians has been positive particularly with the visual representation of distances and time of land resource arrival from both NWAS and MRT.
- Aide memoir is to be put through the Operational Decision Group prior to final publication and introduction into clinical practice.

