

Patrons

Sir Thomas Winsor, HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue
Simon Routh-Jones CBE QFSM, HM Chief Inspector of Scottish Fire & Rescue Service



**EMERGENCY SERVICES
CENOTAPH**

Thursday 4th February 2021

PRESS RELEASE

London Assembly Unanimously Calls on Government to Fund the 999 Cenotaph

The Emergency Services Cenotaph, a registered charity, which is raising at least **£3.2 million** to build the UK's first national **999 Cenotaph**, today received the unanimous support of the London Assembly.

In a motion put forward by Caroline Pidgeon AM, and seconded by Dr Onkar Sahota AM, the London Assembly called on the Mayor of London and the Chair of the London Assembly to lobby the Prime Minister to provide funding for this monument to our NHS and 999 heroes.

The national monument will honour the almost **2 million** people who work across the emergency services and the NHS, including **250,000 first responders**.

The 999 Cenotaph is **supported by HRH The Duke of Cambridge**; the **Prime Minister** (and all living former PMs); the **First Ministers** of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales; the National Police Chiefs' Council, the National Fire Chiefs' Council, the Association of Ambulance Chief Executives; the Maritime and Coastguard Agency; and all Search and Rescue organisations.

Whilst the fundraising campaign was set up before the coronavirus, the virus has put a renewed focus on the campaign for a lasting monument to honour all who have served. So far **£115,000** has been raised.

This national monument is being **sculpted by Mr Philip Jackson CVO DL**, whose previous work includes Bomber Command, Gandhi, HM The Queen in Windsor Great Park, HM Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and HM King George VI.

The Emergency Services Cenotaph, which **will be located in Westminster**, includes six figures stood back-to-back wearing the uniform they would wear when responding to a 999 call. They are a police officer, firefighter, paramedic, a maritime officer, a search and rescue worker, a dog to represent service animals, and a recent addition of an NHS doctor / nurse in scrubs which was added at the start of the COVID pandemic.

Caroline Pidgeon AM, said: "Although there are memorials for some emergency service workers and volunteers around the UK there is not one place to honour all of them and their importance to our country.

"It is time this changed. An emergency services cenotaph in central London would be a place to reflect, remember and honour the sacrifices made by so many during this last year, as well as honouring all who have served in the emergency services past, present and future."

Tom Scholes-Fogg, Founder and Chief Executive of the 999 Cenotaph, said: "I am truly delighted that the London Assembly has unanimously backed the campaign for an Emergency Services Cenotaph to honour the millions of people who have worked and volunteered across the NHS and emergency services. I would like to thank the Mayor of London and all London Assembly Members for their support and for agreeing to lobby the Government for funding.

"To make the 999 Cenotaph a reality we need to raise at least £3.2 million. Our NHS and 999 heroes have been there for you. Please, be there for them, and donate to the 999 Cenotaph today. Donations can be made at www.999Cenotaph.org.uk"

- ENDS -

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

- The Emergency Services Cenotaph is a Registered Charity in England and Wales (1187751) and Scotland (SC048678)
- The 999 Cenotaph's website is www.999Cenotaph.org.uk
- Social media: @999Cenotaph

The text of the London Assembly Motion: Emergency Services Cenotaph Motion – 4th February Plenary

"This Assembly notes the campaign for an Emergency Services Cenotaph in London to honour all who have served in the emergency services and National Health Service past, present and future. It will be the first combined memorial of its kind in the UK.

"This Assembly further notes the two million people that currently work in our emergency services and National Health Service who show huge dedication and believe it is right that we recognise the vital role that they play and pay tribute to the commitment and sacrifice many make in the line of duty.

"This Assembly also believes that in light of the Covid-19 pandemic the need to honour the dedication, bravery and sacrifice of our emergency service and National Health Service workers and volunteers is more important than ever. An Emergency Services Cenotaph will also ensure there is a place for Londoners and those across the country to come and pay their respects to all of those who have served in our emergency services past and present and to honour those we have lost.

"This Assembly fully supports the Emergency Services Cenotaph and calls on the Chair of the Assembly, with the Mayor, to write to the Prime Minister expressing this support and asking for Government to provide financial support, alongside the existing voluntary fundraising effort, to the campaign to help ensure such a cenotaph can begin construction as soon as possible."

Proposer: Caroline Pidgeon AM

Seconder: Dr Onkar Sahota AM

Contact for Media and Additional Information:

- Tom Scholes-Fogg, 999 Cenotaph Founder and CEO, tom@999cenotaph.org.uk, @TScholesFogg

Proudly supported by
HRH The Duke of Cambridge

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Image of the 999 Cenotaph showing the NHS and Paramedic Figures:

We can provide images of all figures if requested.



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Social Media: @999Cenotaph

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