**Press Release**

**AAUK Award Nominations**

*Devon Air Ambulance Trust team members are shortlisted for six prestigious awards at the national Air Ambulances UK Awards of Excellence.*

Air Ambulances UK (AAUK) are hosting their 2024 Awards of Excellence which take place on 28th November at the Coventry Building Society Arena. Sponsored by Kwik Fit, they are designed to highlight the exceptional critical care skills, dedication, and commitment of those working within and supporting the air ambulance community.

Devon Air Ambulance (DAA) has been shortlisted in no less than 6 award categories including a prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award nomination for current CEO, Heléna Holt who is set to retire from the charity after 17 years at the helm, in Spring 2025.

DAA’s Doctor Tim Nutbeam is shortlisted for Doctor of The Year and Pilot Captain Richard Applegarth is shortlisted for Pilot of The Year. The charity’s other nominations include Innovation of The Year, the Breaking Barriers Award and Operations Support Staff of The Year.

The awards ceremony will be attended by hundreds of individuals involved in the Air Ambulance movement and is an opportunity to come together to celebrate and recognise the achievements of the charity teams across the UK.

Matthew Bell, Public Engagement Director for Devon Air Ambulance said,

‘We are thrilled to be attending the AAUK Awards of Excellence later this month and are incredibly proud to have been shortlisted for several awards that highlight the incredible work achieved by our dedicated team here at Devon Air Ambulance. To be shortlisted for these awards is testament to the skills, expertise and passion that we are very lucky to have amongst our people’.

Heléna Holt, Chief Executive for Devon Air Ambulance added,

‘I could not be prouder of the entire team at Devon Air Ambulance. These award nominations reflect the ongoing commitment to our vision and mission as a charity as well as the passion to strive for continuous improvement in our operations for the people of Devon. Our outstanding people fully deserve the recognition that such an accolade represents’.