

11 February 2008

Guarantee sought over future of Keighley St John Ambulance

Kris Hopkins, the Conservative Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Keighley and Ilkley, has written to St John Ambulance Chief Executive Sue Killen seeking an assurance that the organisation's Russell Street base in Keighley will remain open.

In his letter, Cllr Hopkins said he wished to express his "deep concern" at the threatened closure and asked Ms Killen to clarify her "intentions with regard to the future of the facility."

He continued:

"St John Ambulance plays a very important community role in Keighley where residents take great pride in the work done by local volunteers.

"As you will be aware, the adult staff in Keighley serve alongside significant numbers of cadets and badgers.

"Not only has this ensured that strong local staff support is there at all levels for St John Ambulance into the long term, but it has provided an excellent opportunity for younger residents to develop high quality skills and give something back to the community in Keighley.

"On behalf of a very large number of local residents, I am requesting that any threat to the future of the Russell Street base is removed and a guarantee provided that St John Ambulance will retain a permanent posting in the town."

ENDS