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17<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Email:

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI 200725.

You requested the following information, please also see our response below:

- 1. In line with the government guidance that was issued regarding COVID - 19 and personnel with a body mass index (BMI) of 40 or above being able to self isolate as obesity was identified as a risk factor. What percentage of SECAMB ambulance service personnel chose to self isolate due to obesity following government advice?**

We do not keep centralised records for the reasons that staff are self-isolating – this is confidential information kept within the individuals risk report.

- 2. The World Health Organisation class any person with a BMI over 30 as obese and a BMI over 40 as morbidly obese. What percentage of personnel in SECAMB ambulance service is classed as obese or morbidly obese?**

We do not keep centralised records – this is confidential information kept within the individuals risk report

- 3. Under the Health and Safety at Work act 1974 and Regulation 7 of the Working Time Regulations 1998, personnel who engage in night shift work should receive a health assessment prior to commencement of shift work and at regular intervals thereafter for the duration that shift work continues. What percentage of personnel receive regular health assessments and what format does said assessment follow (ie - physical assessment/health questionnaire)?**

Our Actus staff engagement application offers a variety of directed meeting frameworks to maximise the potential for open transparent interactions between staff and their line managers and provide a forum for any issues, concerns or potential opportunities/developments to be raised.

Within these 1 to 1's or appraisals the line manager or the staff member also has the opportunity to express any challenge to their working pattern which may include night shift work. We do not prioritise any single pattern as being more impactful to staff in terms of wellbeing, due to the individuals own idiosyncratic circumstances.

The Trust supports all staff equally in applying for flexible working patterns/ shifts, which are weighed against the service and staff members needs on an individual basis.

I hope you find this information of some assistance.

If for any reason you are dissatisfied with our response, kindly in the first instance contact Caroline Smart, Head of Information Governance via the following email address:

[FOI@secamb.nhs.uk](mailto:FOI@secamb.nhs.uk)

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Coordinator  
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust