22nd February 2021

Email:

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI 210208.

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

I would like to make a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act regarding the following:

Could I please request the following:

1) **The amount of staff sickness between 2016 and 2020 in amount of hours and numbers of staff off. Also a as number of absences (ie how many times staff signed off).**

The figures we have provided are based on full-time equivalent days lost in line with the way we record this information.

For all staff sickness reasons	FTE days lost	Number of Staff (Headcount)	Number of Absences (Occurrences)
2016	61836	2880	6445
2017	58521	2839	6480
2018	57669	2860	6699
2019	73836	3334	8492
2020	91827	3502	10120

The headcount shows the number of staff who have had at least one episode of sickness absence in the period.

Aspiring to be *better today* and even *better tomorrow*

2) the number of these absences and hours that were musculoskeletal and the number that were mental health and stress.

Musculoskeletal sickness	FTE days lost	Number of Staff (Headcount)	Number of Absences (Occurrences)
2016	14866	702	839
2017	12333	616	779
2018	9915	565	672
2019	12738	693	841
2020	14119	701	878

Mental health and stress related sickness	FTE days lost	Number of Staff (Headcount)	Number of Absences (Occurrences)
2016	13464	356	471
2017	15086	436	550
2018	13635	473	644
2019	18491	600	853
2020	20289	698	1010

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

Yours sincerely

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