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11<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Email:

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI 210303.

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

**I am writing to you to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act.**

**My request concerns absences due to stress and sickness related to mental health.**

**I am requesting information from the following time frame:**

**Between January 1st and December 31st 2019 and between January 1st and December 31st 2020.**

**My request is as follows:**

- 1. How many staff (including paramedics, technicians and care assistants) absences were recorded due to stress?**
- 2. How many staff absences were recorded due to sickness related to mental health?**
- 3. During this time frame, what percentage of all staff absences were as a result of stress?**
- 4. During this time frame, what percentage of all staff absences were as a result of sickness related to mental health?**

**If there is an alternative classification for illnesses related to mental illness or stress, please can I be provided with an explanation on this?**

This data below shows the number of sickness occurrences.

	Ambulance Crews		
Year	Stress*	All Sickness	% Stress
2019	390	4,770	8.2%
2020	469	5,677	8.3%

	All Secamb Staff		
Year	Stress*	All Sickness	% Stress
2019	853	8,493	10.0%
2020	993	10,106	9.8%

\* S10 Anxiety/stress/depression/other psychiatric illnesses

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