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6<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Email:

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI 210331.

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

**I wish to obtain information about incidents relating to suicide, attempted suicide, mental health issues, self harm.**

**Q1. Please let me know, between 23.03.2019 and 15.03.2020, how many of the following calls/incidents your service recorded:**

- a. Suicide/Attempted suicide.**
- b. Mental Health/Psychiatric problem.**
- c. Self Harm.**

<b>23rd March to 15th March 2020</b>	
a. Suicide/Attempted suicide.	8224
b. Mental Health/Psychiatric problem.	38290
c. Self Harm.	not available

**Q.2 Exactly the same as Q.1 a, b & c but between 23.03.2020 and 15.03.2021 instead.**

<b>23rd March 2020 to 15th March 2021</b>	
a. Suicide/Attempted suicide.	7639
b. Mental Health/Psychiatric problem.	40912
c. Self Harm.	not available

- Please note that "self harm" is not recorded by the Ambulance service.

## NOTES AND CLARIFICATION

i. If possible please can you provide any eventual response to my questions in PDF format.

ii. I appreciate that your system may not record incidents under exactly the terms I have written above. For instance, from reading FOIA responses London Ambulance have previously issued, I believe that organisation may have an incident recording category called "Psychiatric/Abnormal Behaviour/Suicide Attempt". While worded a little differently than my question, this is quite clearly the kind of info I am seeking, and so if your organisation similarly has a category or categories which clearly cover the kind of info I am after but are worded slightly differently then please use these as opposed to trying to stick rigidly and pedantically to the exact, precise wording I have used in my questions (not accusing yourselves of anything, please don't misunderstand me, and I apologise if that last bit sounded snotty as this is not my intention. However, I have been told that some organisations will try to use things like this to delay/withhold, so I am just inserting this as a "general disclaimer" if you like).

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