



Trust Headquarters
Nexus House
Gatwick Road
Crawley
West Sussex
RH10 9BG

Tel: 0300 123 0999
www.secamb.nhs.uk

2nd December 2021

Email:

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI 211131.

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

How many staff members were recorded to have had long Covid while working for your trust at any time in the period between March 2020 - September 2021?

41 staff were recorded with a Covid related period of sickness absence lasting more than 12 weeks during this period.

What were the five longest periods in days that a member of staff took a leave of absence due to long Covid in the time period between March 2020 - September 2021?

These are the 5 longest periods of Covid related sickness absence during this period.

Total Duration (Days)
515
298
281
280
277

Could you state all leave of absences taken where long Covid was cited as the cause between March 2020 and September 2021.

7390 days in total were recorded as lost due to a Covid related periods of sickness absence lasting more than 12 weeks

Does your trust offer any specialized support for staff members living with long Covid? If so could you please provide details of these services.

The Trust follows NHS England guidance on 'Support our NHS staff suffering from Long COVID' which provides a package of comprehensive support for health and wellbeing including mental health hubs, rapid referral to services, local occupational health and online wellbeing resources.

What plans, if any, are in place to improve the support available to staff members who are living with long Covid while working for your trust?

As Long COVID is such a specialized area of medicine we will continue to support our staff member through all of the NHS Long COVID provisions, working with other Trusts to jointly procure additional services where appropriate.

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**