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15th December 2021

Email:

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI 211135.

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

1. The service schedule for the winch in a Fiat DCA

Six monthly – In accordance with LOLER regulations.

2. The training guide so that staff know how to access the rear of the vehicle with 999 at scene lights activated

Please see attached for an example of documentation provided for staff familiarisation and training.

3. The distance between attendants' seat on the near side and the trolley. The Carter report mentions about this. What is the trust view as to the compliance to this gap.

The National Specifications advises:

3. The saloon interior design must allow ambulance type carry chairs to pass between the wheel arch/nearside seating and the stretcher in its locks, with attendant seats in stowed position.
- The Trust conversion gap is 550mm wide between the seat and stretcher. The Ferno compact 2 carry chair being 450mm at the widest point (side rails at the feet).



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- This is based on our current build from the SECamb tender & not the NHSE specification as the ratified criteria was issued after the design phase.
- During the design phase representatives, including operational colleagues, ensured that access was achievable with a patient sitting on a standard ambulance Carrying Chair

4. Where do crew place green personal holders and grey hood boxes and a photo please to show they fit, along with confirmation the cupboard can accept the weight.

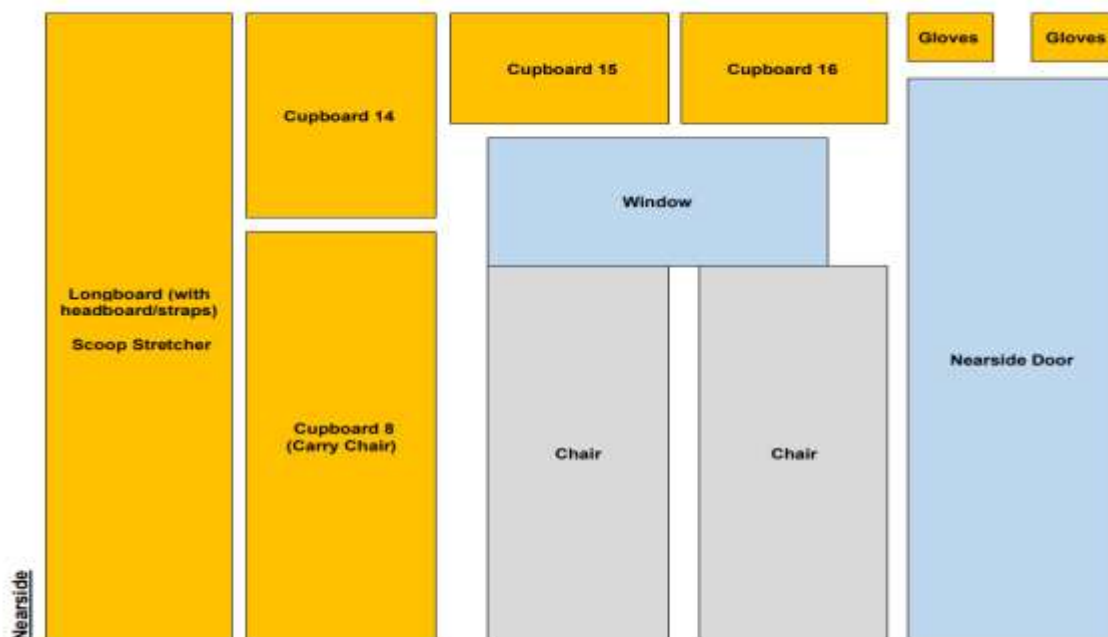
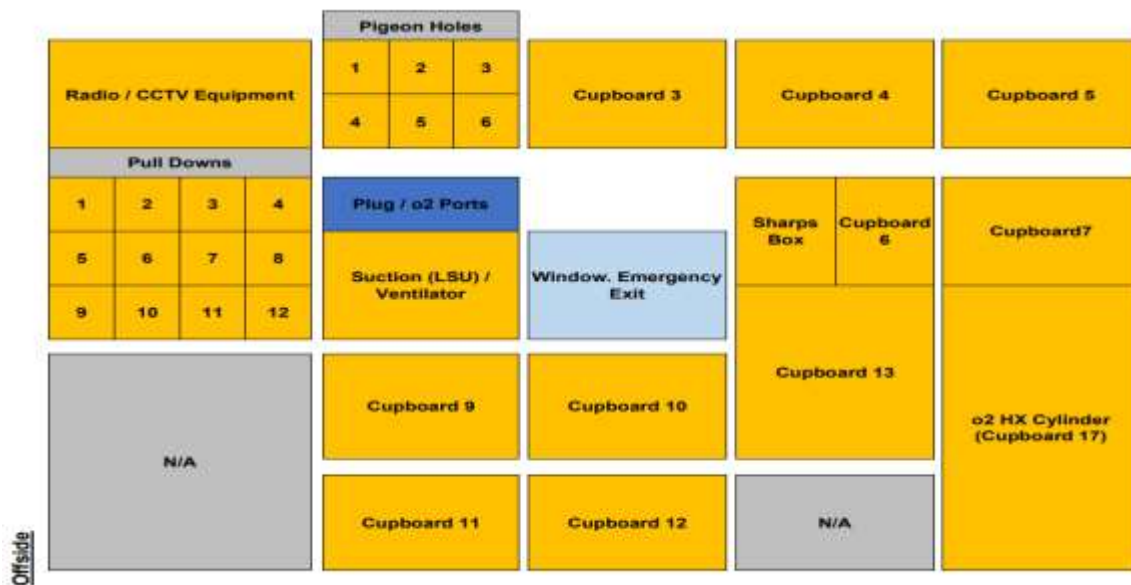
The Trust does not hold information which confirms the weight limitations for each cupboard. There have been no reported concerns over the weight capacity of any cupboard areas on DCAs.

Powered Hoods were not issued at design stage and are an addition to the SLL due to Covid -19, however, the grey boxes are stored in the overhead locker with the manual handling kit. The boxes fit next to each other and on top of each other (see photographs below).



Personal Kit

- Currently there is 1 locker for personal kit, which is the second locker in on the O/S top bank (Cupboard 4 on SLL). This will take 1 bag although staff all use different personal bags.
- Although there is no dedicated space for a second kit bag there is capacity available (see commentary and pictures below).
- The blanket locker (Cupboard 3) could possibly be relocated to the N/S locker (Cupboard 15) and the contents put into cupboard 16. This would give a second locker. There is also some room in cupboard 10 on the O/S but with limited access due to the stretcher.
- Cupboard 12 is empty but is too small for a kit bag and limited to access being behind the stretcher.
- Any proposals for changes would need to be completed through committee to comply with Trust direction on standardisation.





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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**