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10th February 2022

Email:

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI 220142.

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

1. I was wondering if you could confirm if South East Coast Ambulance Service have a make ready team?

Yes

2. If there is such a team could you please let me know if they assist with VDI- if so, do they check the equipment within the ambulance or the road worthiness of a vehicle?

Yes, they check the VDI and the equipment within the ambulance. No they do not check the road worthiness of the vehicle.

3. If there is such a team completing VDIs does this mean that once a crew sign onto a vehicle at the start of shift they immediately are able to respond to all categories of incidents, or do they have a time period to complete their own inspections?

The crew have time to complete mandatory vehicle checks, as the driver is liable in law for the road worthiness of their vehicle.

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**