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Date

Email:

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI 220721.

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

**I would like to know the following information:**

**1) What is the total number of Emergency Response drivers across SECAMB?**

2942 (as per Electronic Staff Record ESR 09/08/2022)

**2) Of the total number of drivers, what number are out of date by virtue of not having a Section 19 Road Safety Act 2006 refresher within the 5-year window?**

The Section 19 of the Road Safety Act 2006 is not yet in legislation. Therefore no-one 'is out of date'.

The legislation is due to come into parliament in October 2022 from which, the Department for Transport has yet to release an implementation date for emergency drivers to receive any refresher training, although, guidance is likely to be - 7.5hours of driver refresher training every 5 years. from when the date is set in parliament.

**2) Specific to Paddock Wood Make Ready Station, what are the total number of Emergency Response drivers at the base?**

As per ESR 09/08/2022 - 253 (However - this number is not accurate as ESR is not continually updated and there is staff fluctuation and movement between sites)

**4) Of the total number of Emergency Response Drivers at Paddock Wood, what number are out of date by virtue of not having a Section 19 Road Safety Act 2006 refresher within the 5 year window?**

No-one is essentially out of date until 5 years after the S.19 implementation date of legislation for Department for Transport.

**5) Of those who have not had a driving refresher within 5 years, how many are driving an emergency vehicle on a regular basis.**

The majority of our staff drive emergency vehicles and will have the refresher if they are due – this is primarily being managed off paddock wood site.

**6) How many Operational Team Leaders are there at Paddock Wood?**

We currently have 13 team leaders at paddock wood

**7) How many of those OTLs are out of date for driving refresher training?**

None. section 19 training is being rolled out.

However - There is not an implementation date for S.19 - so no-one would be 'out of date' until 5 years *AFTER* the Department for Transport set the date in place when the bill is passed in parliament. It is within the trusts interest to offer regular continual assessments to ensure the legislative requirements are met as per the S.19 guidelines.

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**