



Trust Headquarters
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17th October 2022

Email:

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI 220837.

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

I m wanting to know how the funding structure works for the trust in regards to the amount of calls you attend. Do you get more money from the government depending on how many calls you attend. And is the amount also dependent per job on what the outcome is. For example the most money if you're crew's discharge on scene independently, less if referred to their GP or 111, and the least amount if they are taken to A&E.

I m curious if there is a structure in place like above to incentivise hospital and GP avoidance given ongoing pressure to the NHS

Funding for our 999 service comes from the Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) we serve (NHS Surrey Heartlands, NHS Kent and Medway, NHS Sussex, and NHS Frimley), who are our commissioners. They are funded by NHS England (NHSE), through the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). The Kinds Fund have a helpful guide to how the healthcare system is funded (<https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/projects/nhs-in-a-nutshell/how-nhs-funded>).

We are currently funded through a block contract, which is a fixed amount, based on the resource requirements to meet planned activity. Our funding does not change depending on how many calls we receive.

The amount is not dependent per job; however we are monitored on our activity which is broken down as calls, hear and treat (patient triaged and provided with self-care advice or director to another healthcare provider), See and Treat (patient treated and discharged at scene) and See, Treat and Convey (patient transported to another healthcare provider).

In the past our funding has been adjusted on a marginal rate depending on the type of response delivered, but this has not been the case since our 2020/21 contract. Further information on how what activity an ambulance trust is monitored on can be found at <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/ambulance-quality-indicators/>

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**