



Trust Headquarters
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25th November 2022

Email:

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

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI 221112.

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

Please could I request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act.

1. The total number of ambulance staff, including paramedics and ambulance technicians, who have taken time off work due to anxiety, stress, depression or other psychiatric illness in (a) Q4 2021 (October-December) (b) Q1 2022 (January-March), (c) Q2 2022 (April to June), and (d) Q3 2022 (July to September). Please also provide the percentage of the total ambulance staff workforce this number represents.

We have provided occurrences of stress related sickness for ambulance staff as we are not able to give a headcount for this question. We are also unable to provide % but have added ambulance staff headcount.

	Period	Absence Occurrences
a	Oct to Dec 21	222
b	Jan to Mar 22	208
c	Apr to Jun 22	182
d	Jul to Sep 22	195

Date	Ambulance Staff headcount
31.12.21	2430
31.03.22	2427
30.06.22	2398
30.09.22	2483

2. The total number of working days lost due to mental health related reasons in each of the aforementioned quarters.

We have provided 'Absence days lost' due to shift patterns not being on our Electronic Staff Record (ESR). Working days lost are not available.

Period	Absence Days Lost	
	Ambulance Staff	All Staff
Oct to Dec 21	5246	8215
Jan to Mar 22	4301	7760
Apr to Jun 22	3451	7386
Jul to Sep 22	4043	8073

3. The total number of ambulance staff who have requested long term sick leave for mental health related reasons in each of the aforementioned quarters.

Staff do not request long term sick leave. Fit notes must be provided for absence. 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**