

Trust Headquarters Nexus House 4 Gatwick Road Crawley West Sussex RH10 9BG

Date

Email:

Dear,

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

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI 230360.

You requested the following information. Please also see our response below:

Can you please provide the following statistics for the period 1-Jan-2021 to 1-Jan-2022 and also 1-Jan-2022 to 1-Jan-2023? It would be appreciated if you can provide the numbers as a percentage (out of 100%) and as a ratio (x out of total) too. The request relates to paramedics that work directly for your trust and have been referred to HCPC by your trust.

-What percentage of international newly qualified paramedics (NQP) have been referred to HCPC for fitness to practice (FtP)?

As this figure is less than 10 we are unable to provide the exact number as it may be identifiable to individuals

-What percentage of U.K. NQP have been referred to HCPC for FtP?

As this figure is less than 10 we are unable to provide the exact number as it may be identifiable to individuals

-What percentage of senior (Band 6) paramedics have been referred to HCPC for FtP?

Band 6 paramedics - (21/22) & (22/23)- Total 13

-What percentage of advanced (Band 7) paramedics have been referred to HCPC for FtP?

Band 7 paramedics -(21/22)(22/23) - As this figure is less than 10 we are unable to provide the exact number as it may be identifiable to individuals

Total HCPC referrals 1-Jan-2021 to 1-Jan-2022 - 12

Total HCPC referrals 1-Jan-2022 to 1-Jan-2023 - 11

HCPC registrants are bound by standard 9.5 of the Standards of, conduct, performance and ethics, which states:

You must tell the HCPC as soon as possible if:

 you accept a caution from the police or you have been charged with, or found guilty of, a criminal offence;

 another organisation responsible for regulating a health or social-care profession has taken action or made a finding against you;

 you have had any restriction placed on your practice, or been suspended or dismissed by an employer, because of concerns about your conduct or competence.

From a Trust perspective, when someone is suspended, they are advised to self-refer within their suspension letter.

If a registrant is restricted, they would only be required to self-refer if the restriction affected their clinical autonomy as a Paramedic. Professional Standards would be asked by HR to advise on this before they completed any potential self-referral.

If a member of staff refused to self-refer when it is clear they meet the threshold for self-referral, this is when the Trust would complete a management referral. We have only completed 2 of these in the past 2 years.

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

Best placed to *care*, the *best* place to *work* Chair: David Astley OBE; CEO: Simon Weldon