



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 in receipt of your email dated 23 October 2023 relating to our response under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). Reference FOI 230919.

Firstly, I am sorry that you found the information provided to be incomplete. I would like to assure you that the Trust has a robust internal FOI process in place whereby all requests are initially reviewed then forwarded to the appropriate stakeholder portfolio to provide the requested information.

Information is collated, with all responses undertaking a vigorous review and sign off process prior to sending. This review process also includes the associated portfolio Director and Trust FOI Lead.

Under the FOI provision you requested the following information:

So, I would like to know:

- 1) How many times and on what dates over the last 10 years, has an ambulance been in attendance on Selsey east beach. For an injury from a fall, not for anyone taken ill.**
- 2) *The nature/seriousness of the injury (broken bones, concussion, cuts and bruises)***
- 3) What caused the fall or injury. Loose stones, trip on fixed object or cables etc.**
- 4) If data protection will allow this, the age of those injured.**

We provided the response below with an accompanying summary table:

Date range: 01/Sep/2013 - 31/Aug/2023

Location Search: East Beach & PO20

Incidents have been validated to only include falls on East Beach or in the vicinity (car park, etc.). Residential addresses have been excluded. There were ten incidents during this period.

Summary table:

Category	Cause
CATC30E	Fell down grass bank
CATC30E	Slipped on mud
CATC30E	Intoxicated
CATC30E	No cause noted
Cat 3	Slip
Cat 2	Fall off bike
Cat 1	Blown by wind
Cat 2	Off scooter
Cat 2	Off groyne
Cat 2	Fall off bike

Please find below our response to the further questions raised. For ease of reference these have been responded to in the order to which they have been presented

1. Do I need to make an official complaint to the ICO if this is your “final response”?

Trust response.

This is the Trusts final response. You are of course full entitled to refer this request to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO). As you will be aware the ICO is our regulator and the UK's independent body set up to uphold information rights.

In the spirit of being open and transparent I have provided contact details for the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) should you wish to make a formal complaint.

*Head office
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF*

2. Regarding instances.

I know for a fact that an ambulance attended a runner who fell on 17 September 2023. See attached screenshot. I have names of many witnesses.

Trust response:

The request received related to the following timeframes, 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2023. This is outside of the date range for the original request.

In addition, I also know for a fact, that an elderly person fell due to beach stones on the footpath at the holiday huts north of the Lifeboat on a Saturday in September/October (2022) and ambulance was called as they had broken bones.

Trust response.

Please refer to the summary table provided which illustrates information.

3. Information missing:

No dates have been given yet were requested.

Trust response.

The Trust complies with the ICO Anonymisation Code of Practice and as such applies the 'less than 10 caveat' and part postcodes when responding to requests. These principles have been applied to protect confidentiality and prevent information from being jig sawed together which could then be made identifiable. In addition to this, by providing specific dates there is the risk that individuals may be identified.

By way of background this request was also scrutinised by the Head of Information Governance and Deputy SIRO (Senior Information Risk Owner). In this instance, due to small numbers involved the decision was taken to combine the overall years and provide high level summary information.

4. No details of injuries have been stated yet were requested. Original request was for 'The nature/seriousness of the injury (broken bones, concussion, cuts and bruises)'.

Trust response:

Please see above explanation. We provided the Category data (seriousness of the injury). However, to provide more detailed information could potentially lead to reidentification and a breach of confidentiality.

5. I am taking legal proceedings against a public body (not NHS) and this information is vital to support my case.

Perhaps you would rather be required to attend court (and perhaps be interviewed by TV news) and explain why you have not provided correct, accurate and detailed information I requested?

Trust response:

Please see above explanation.

Further information

As a Trust SECamb fully acknowledges its statutory legal obligations around the completion of Freedom of Information requests. It further supports the process through a fully functioning publication scheme where responses, in an anonymised format are uploaded onto our public website.

The Trust has a robust information governance framework in place underpinned by a suite of policies and the completion of annual mandatory Data Protection and Cyber Security Awareness training. This training also heavily references the FOI process.

In addition to the above, it also as a fully functioning Information Governance Working Group. Membership of this group includes the SIRO (Senior Information Risk Owner), Deputy SIRO, Caldicott Guardian and Senior Managers across the organisation.

I trust that this provides clarification to the questions raised.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Smart

Head of Information Governance

South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust

FOI@secamb.nhs.uk

