

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

Internal Ref: Email:

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

Dear ,

The trust is in receipt of your information request, thank you. Please accept this formal response, which has been given the internal reference quoted above. Please quote this reference number in any correspondence.

Please accept the Trust's sincere apologies for the delay and inconvenience you have experienced regarding this response. At the time of writing the Trust continues to receive high volumes of FOI requests, many of which are complex and time consuming. In this instance, the Trust has not responded within the required 20 days, and for this we apologise.

Request

You asked us:

Please can you provide answers to the below questions under the FOI act.

- 1. Please answer yes or no. In January 2025 was your Trust conducting any... internal review / investigation / report being compiled... into a consultant that has had concerns raised about him or her (ie. a whistleblower has come forward and named the person)?
- 2. Please answer yes or no. In January 2025 was your Trust conducting any... internal review / investigation / report being compiled... into a junior doctor that has had concerns raised about him or her (ie. a whistleblower has come forward and named the person)?
- 3. Please answer yes or no. In January 2025 was your Trust conducting any... internal review / investigation / report being compiled... into a nurse that has had concerns raised about him or her (ie. a whistleblower has come forward and named the person)?
- 4. Please answer yes or no. Has your Trust conducted / started or concluded an internal or external review / investigation of a medical member of staff since January 1st 2023 following a whistleblower or patient raising concerns?
- 5. Please answer yes or no. If you answered yes to question 4 did the member of medical staff being investigated continue to have contact



- with patients whilst the... review/investigation/report being written... was ongoing?
- 6. If you answered yes to Question 4, is the member(s) of staff that was investigated / reviewed still working at your Trust following the review conclusions?
- 7. If you answered yes to Question 4, for those reports that have concluded, was the member of staff that was investigated / reviewed found to have fallen short of the standards your Trust would expect from their medical staff?
- 8. If you answered yes to Question 4, how many members of medical staff were reviewed/ investigated following an internal whistleblower raising concerns?
- 9. If you answered yes to Question 4, was the whistleblower also investigated?
- 10. Please answer yes or no. Do you have any experience with a malicious whistleblower? If yes, please share further details if able. (An example of a malicious whistleblower is someone that reports a colleague purely because they want to cause that person repetitional harm, not because they have any actual knowledge of them falling below expected standards for the trust).
- 11. Please share any review conclusions / reports / write ups where possible.
- 12. Please share any further details of your whistleblower policy here. How do you manage whistleblowers when they raise concerns?

We have processed your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Response

The formal Trust response follows.

The Trust confirms it does not hold the information you requested.

We are an Ambulance Trust and do not employ Consultants or Junior Doctors within the Trust so we are unable to answer these questions.

Next steps

We hope you find the information provided to be of some assistance.

Should you be 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

You can ask us to review our response. If you would like us to carry out a review, please let us know within 40 working days. This will be conducted by someone who was not involved in reviewing the original response, ordinarily, the Trust Data Protection Officer.



Chair: Usman Khan CEO: Simon Weldon

Should you remain dissatisfied following our internal review, you can complain to the <u>Information Commissioner's Office</u> (ICO). You should make complaints to the ICO within six weeks of receiving the outcome of an internal review. The easiest way to lodge a complaint is through their website: <u>www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints</u>.

The ICO's postal address is: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF.

Chair: Usman Khan CEO: Simon Weldon

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Coordinator
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust

