



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 Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) request, thank you. This request has been assigned the internal reference quoted above; please ensure that you quote this number in any future correspondence.

We have now provided a formal response below. Please accept our sincere apologies for the delay and inconvenience you have experienced regarding the completion of this request. 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 working days, and for this we apologise.

FOI Request

You asked us:

I am making this request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and would be grateful if you could provide the following information regarding South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust's expenditure on staff uniforms:

1. ****Total uniform expenditure** for the last financial year (April 2022 – March 2023) and, if available, the current financial year to date (April 2023 – present).**
2. ****Breakdown of uniform items purchased** (clinical and non-clinical staff), including:**
 - Type of uniform items purchased (e.g., tunics, trousers, scrubs, polo shirts, jackets, etc.).
 - The number of each uniform item purchased.
 - The unit price of each uniform item.
3. ****Suppliers**:** A list of uniform suppliers used by the Trust.
4. ****Procurement Process**:** If applicable, details of any existing contracts or agreements for uniform procurement.



I would appreciate the data in an electronic format (Excel or CSV) where possible.

Formal Response

The Trust confirms it holds part of the information you requested.

1. ****Total uniform expenditure** for the last financial year (April 2022 – March 2023) and, if available, the current financial year to date (April 2023 – present).**

There is a national uniform contract in place with Cooneen. This is an NHS Framework Contract that is managed by NHS North of England Commercial Procurement Collaborative, which all ambulance trusts use. Please contact NHS North of England for the total spend, purchase numbers, or unit prices.

2. ****Breakdown of uniform items purchased** (clinical and non-clinical staff), including:**
 - **Type of uniform items purchased (e.g., tunics, trousers, scrubs, polo shirts, jackets, etc.).**

The Trust publishes its Uniform Procedure via the website at the following link: <https://www.secamb.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Uniform-Procedure.pdf>
Appendix B and C details the types of uniform items the Trust requires.

- **The number of each uniform item purchased.**
- **The unit price of each uniform item.**

There is a national uniform contract in place with Cooneen. This is an NHS Framework Contract that is managed by NHS North of England Commercial Procurement Collaborative, which all ambulance trusts use. Please contact NHS North of England for the total spend, purchase numbers, or unit prices.

3. ****Suppliers**:** A list of uniform suppliers used by the Trust.

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4. ****Procurement Process**:** If applicable, details of any existing contracts or agreements for uniform procurement.

There is a national uniform contract in place with Cooneen. This is an NHS Framework Contract that is managed by NHS North of England Commercial Procurement Collaborative, which all ambulance trusts use. Please contact NHS North of England for the total spend, purchase numbers, or unit prices. This runs from January 2023 to August 2028.



Next steps

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

Should you be dissatisfied with our response then in the first instance please contact Caroline Smart, Head of Information Governance, via the following email address: FOI@secamb.nhs.uk

You can ask us to review our original response. If you would like us to carry out an internal review, please let us know within 40 working days of you receiving our original response. This review will be conducted by an individual who was not directly involved in reviewing the original response, ordinarily, the Trust Data Protection Officer. We will endeavour to complete this request within 20 working days.

Should you remain dissatisfied then you can contact the [Information Commissioner's Office](#) (ICO). Complaints to the ICO should be made within six weeks of receiving the outcome of an internal review. The easiest way to lodge a complaint is through their website: www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints.

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

Yours sincerely,

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



Saving Lives,
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Chair: Michael Whitehouse CEO: Simon Weldon