



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

Internal Ref:  
Email:

Dear Sir,

Tel: 0300 123 0999  
[www.secamb.nhs.uk](http://www.secamb.nhs.uk)

The trust acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) request, referenced above. Please ensure you quote this number in any future correspondence.

### **FOI Request**

You asked us:

**Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please can you disclose the following information:**

- 1. The number of ambulance staff/paramedics who have been injured while on duty in the last three years. (Broken down by FY 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25)**
  - 1a) Broken down by injury causes (e.g. slip/trip/fall, road traffic incident, assault) (Broken down by same years as above).**
  - 1b) Broken down by injury severity (slight, serious, fatal) (Broken down by same years as above).**
  - 1c) Broken down by location/area where the injury occurred. (Broken down by same years as above).**

### **Formal Response**

The Trust confirms it holds part of the information you requested. This information cannot be restricted to represent only paramedics or staff that work in ambulances.

The Trust has extracted data from an internal incident reporting system. Numbers of incidents include those reported as affecting any staff member, and is under a category related to sustaining injuries or suffering physical assaults. These incidents are reported by individual staff members; accuracy of any data output reflects only the accuracy with which individual reports were made.

- 1. The number of ambulance staff/paramedics who have been injured while on duty in the last three years.**

| 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 901     | 967     | 1037    |



### 1a) Broken down by injury causes (e.g. slip/trip/fall, road traffic incident, assault)

The Trust can provide a breakdown of the category of incident. The incident reporting database was upgraded during Quarter 4 of 2023/24, so prior to this the categorisation was more limited. Some categories – although similar – cannot be equated across the years, so have been left separate.

| Category                                              | 2022/23    | 2023/24    | 2024/25     |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Abuse of Staff by Patients / Relatives / Bystanders   | 213        | 246        | -           |
| Burn/injury from hot or cold surface                  | -          | 2          | 8           |
| Crush injury (incl. limb shut in ambulance door)      | -          | 1          | 33          |
| Cut/abrasions                                         | -          | 7          | 50          |
| Home working/office related                           | -          | 1          | 3           |
| Injured by an animal                                  | -          | 3          | 13          |
| Injured entering or exiting a Trust vehicle           | -          | 10         | 47          |
| Injury caused due to confined space                   | -          | 3          | 13          |
| Injury from clean sharps                              | -          | 2          | 33          |
| Injury from dirty sharps                              | -          | -          | 38          |
| Injury occurring during training (including MSK)      | -          | 4          | 24          |
| Injury related to driving a Trust vehicle             | 43         | 38         | 13          |
| Manual handling & restraining injuries                | 339        | 305        | 307         |
| Needlestick Injury or Other Sharps Incident           | 49         | 51         | -           |
| Other Health and Safety                               | 128        | 133        | -           |
| Other injury                                          | -          | 12         | 62          |
| Person injured by a static/fixed object               | -          | -          | 18          |
| Person struck by projectile / falling / moving object | -          | 2          | 22          |
| Physical assault (actual or attempted)                | -          | 24         | 284         |
| SECAmb staff to SECAmb staff abuse                    | 5          | 4          | -           |
| Slip on a wet/icy surface                             | -          | 2          | 10          |
| Staff Related Falls                                   | 123        | 111        | -           |
| Trip or fall related to steps/stairs                  | -          | 6          | 27          |
| Trip/fall on level or uneven ground                   | -          | -          | 32          |
| Workstation (Office) Related                          | 1          | -          | -           |
| <b>Total</b>                                          | <b>901</b> | <b>967</b> | <b>1037</b> |

### 1b) Broken down by injury severity (slight, serious, fatal)

The Trust can provide a breakdown of severity only as classified in the table below:

| Severity of Harm                     | 2022/23    | 2023/24    | 2024/25     |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| None (no harm caused)                | 140        | 185        | 239         |
| Low (Minimal harm caused)            | 745        | 759        | 635         |
| Moderate (Short term harm caused)    | 16         | 22         | 160         |
| Severe (Permanent or long term harm) | -          | 1          | 3           |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>901</b> | <b>967</b> | <b>1037</b> |



There is no classification of 'slight, serious, fatal' within the data held by the Trust and there is no mechanism by which to extract this.

### **1c) Broken down by location/area where the injury occurred.**

The Trust can provide a breakdown of location by county, as indicated in the table below:

| County              | 2022/23    | 2023/24    | 2024/25     |
|---------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Hampshire           | 54         | 60         | 17          |
| Kent                | 324        | 347        | 375         |
| Surrey              | 156        | 194        | 201         |
| Sussex              | 364        | 365        | 440         |
| Outside SECamb Area | 3          | 1          | 4           |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>901</b> | <b>967</b> | <b>1037</b> |

### **Next steps**

We publish a variety of information which may assist future enquiries relating to our service on our website – [www.secamb.nhs.uk](http://www.secamb.nhs.uk).

Should you be dissatisfied with our response then in the first instance please contact Richard Banks, Head of Corporate Governance, via the following email address: [FOI@secamb.nhs.uk](mailto: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](https://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints) (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](https://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**



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