NHS
South East Coast
Ambulance Service
NHS Foundation Trust

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

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

Internal Ref: 250919
Email:

Dear,

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:

I would like to request the following information from under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

1.) The amount of money spent by the trust on legal cases (or law firms) defending it against whistleblowers, against claims of workplace discrimination, and defending it in employment disputes in the last five financial years.

Please can the data be broken down by each year for the last five financial years (2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25).

Formal Response

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

1.) The amount of money spent by the trust on legal cases (or law firms) defending it against whistleblowers, against claims of workplace discrimination, and defending it in employment disputes in the last five financial years.

Please can the data be broken down by each year for the last five financial years (2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25).

Our financial system does not allow us to identify specific costs against those requested in the FOI; however we can provide the amount spend with employment law firms for employment advice, which includes defending against employment disputes etc.

2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
£144,304	£123,188	£231,651	£177,436	£384,927

Next steps

We publish a variety of information which may assist future enquiries relating to our service on our website – 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

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