



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

Please accept the Trust's apologies for the delay and inconvenience you have experienced regarding your FOIA request.

FOI Request

You asked us:

The purpose of this request is to gather data on the cost of bariatric equipment.

I am seeking data on the following for each of the following calendar years: 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and partial data for 2025 if available.

If data is instead held by financial years (i.e. 2021-2022), I confirm that I am happy for the data to be provided in this format instead.

- 1. The total cost (in GBP) of bariatric ambulances purchased or leased, broken down by calendar or financial year**
- 2. The total cost (in GBP) of all bariatric equipment purchased or leased, broken down by calendar or financial year**
- 3. The total number of callouts where a bariatric ambulance was deployed, broken down by calendar or financial year**

Bariatric ambulances refer to specialised ambulances which are designed to safely and comfortably transport patients who are obese or have mobility challenges that require extra support, bariatric stretchers and chairs, etc.

Bariatric equipment can include, but is not limited to, bariatric reinforced stretchers, lifting and hoisting devices, chairs, etc.



I confirm that I am not seeking any personal or identifying information about individuals involved in these areas. I would like you to provide the information in the following format:

- Please provide the information in electronic format, preferably as an Excel spreadsheet or CSV file. Please avoid sending PDFs or Word documents if possible.

If you are unable to provide the specified information:

- If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.
- If you are unable to provide the specified information exactly as requested, please provide **any** data you have that is relevant to the request and explain why the other information cannot be provided.

Formal Response

The Trust confirms it holds the information you have requested.

The purpose of this request is to gather data on the cost of bariatric equipment.

I am seeking data on the following for each of the following calendar years: 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and partial data for 2025 if available.

If data is instead held by financial years (i.e. 2021-2022), I confirm that I am happy for the data to be provided in this format instead.

1. The total cost (in GBP) of bariatric ambulances purchased or leased, broken down by calendar or financial year

No bariatric vehicles have been purchased or leased in years 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 or 2025.

2. The total cost (in GBP) of all bariatric equipment purchased or leased, broken down by calendar or financial year.

2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
£0	£4,194	£108	£0	£2,345	£1,388



3. The total number of callouts where a bariatric ambulance was deployed, broken down by calendar or financial year

Year	Q3_Count of Incidents with a Response - Bariatric Vehicle
2020	166
2021	193
2022	145
2023	198
2024	186
2025	122

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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**



Saving Lives,
Serving Our Communities

Chair: Michael Whitehouse CEO: Simon Weldon