



Trust Headquarters
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Crawley
West Sussex
RH10 9BG

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

16th January 2026
Internal Ref: 251236
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:

Request for Information: I request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding temporary worker usage for communications roles.

Definition of Scope: For the purposes of this request, "communications" refers to any function or team managed, hosted, or funded through the Trust's structures (including work performed for Integrated Care Boards (ICBs), regional partnerships, or shared service models) that encompasses:

Internal or external communications functions;

Media relations or the Press Office;

Social media management and digital content;

Marketing and brand management (where these sit within the communications structure).

Definition of Personnel: For the purposes of this request, the term "agency" refers to all temporary or non-permanent staff, including those engaged via an



external recruitment agency, a Managed Service Provider (MSP), or the Trust's internal "Staff Bank" where such an arrangement exists.

Timing and Cooperation: To ensure the data provided is accurate and aligned with your internal reporting cycles, I am happy to allow the necessary time for your teams to complete the December 2025 (Month 9) month-end close before running these reports. I recognise that the holiday period may impact administrative capacity and I seek a collaborative approach to ensure the provision of a complete and reconciled dataset.

Please provide the following data:

1. 2025/26 Actuals and Outturn Forecast

1a. Provide the total number of days a temporary worker was employed via an agency or bank for the communications roles defined above from 1 April 2025 to the end of the December 2025 (Month 9) reporting period. (If data is only held in hours, please provide the total hours and specify the standard working day length).

1b. Provide the current projected year-end outturn for the total number of agency/bank days for these roles for the full 2025/26 financial year (ending 31 March 2026).

1c. Provide a breakdown of these days by Agenda for Change (AfC) Band or job title.

2. 2026/27 Planned Requirements

2a. Provide the total number of days currently budgeted or forecasted for agency-provided or bank communications staff for the 2026/27 financial year.

2b. Funding and Management Qualifier: This request explicitly includes all agency and bank requirements managed or funded through the Trust, regardless of whether the end-user is the Trust itself, an ICB, or a regional partnership.

2c. Financial Qualifier: Note that I am requesting the currently held financial forecasts and draft budget allocations for 2026/27 as they exist at the time of this request. If these forecasts do not yet segment requirements by specific band, please provide the overall forecasted budget for temporary staffing within the communications function.

Public Interest and Statutory Compliance: This information is requested to ensure transparency regarding the use of public funds and the efficiency of NHS staffing structures. There is a clear and compelling public interest in disclosure regarding how authorities manage workforce budgets and their reliance on non-permanent staffing models.

Formal Response

The Trust confirms that it does not hold the information requested, as no individual has been employed in a temporary communications role.

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Next steps



Please note you will be able to source a lot of information which is made available on our website.

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