



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

5th February 2026
Internal Ref: 260101
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:

I am contacting you to enquire about the following details regarding your Community First Responders.

- 1. What uniform do your CFRs get issued, if possible please can you provide reference images?**
- 2. Do your CFR get issued radios, if not what do you use as an alternative?**
- 3. What current scope of practice do your CFRs work to, and do you have plans to extend this scope (if so, what is currently in the works)?**
 - 3.1. Do you give CFRs an in house qualification or a nationally recognised qualification such as FREC**
- 4. What equipment (medications/obs monitoring/etc.) do you issue CFRs?**
- 5. Do CFRs use their own personal vehicles, or are they provided with trust issued vehicles.**

If so,

 - 5.1. Do the trust provide the vehicles or is it from a charity?**
 - 5.2. Do your CFRs / is there plans for your CFRs to be trained to drive under emergency conditions**
- 6. What is the criteria for a CFR to be dispatched? (If possible a list of suitable DX/AMPDS codes)**



Formal Response

I am contacting you to enquire about the following details regarding your Community First Responders.

1. What uniform do your CFRs get issued, if possible please can you provide reference images?

Standard uniform issue for CFRs is as follows:

- Red polo shirt
- Black cargo trousers
- Red soft shell jacket
- High visibility jacket
- Black safety boots

An example can be seen in the enclosed image.

2. Do your CFR get issued radios, if not what do you use as an alternative?

CFRs are not issued with radios. Instead, they communicate using a Trust-issued smart phone installed with the National Mobilisation Application (NMA) which enables them to be dispatched to incidents and provide scene updates.

3. What current scope of practice do your CFRs work to, and do you have plans to extend this scope (if so, what is currently in the works)?

The scope of practice for CFRs is listed within our Scope of Practice and Clinical Standards Policy, copy enclosed. The policy and scope of practice is regularly reviewed and any changes will be in line with identified needs and clinical governance processes.

3.1. Do you give CFRs an in-house qualification or a nationally recognised qualification such as FREC

CFRs undertake a nationally accredited qualification (Level 3 Award for First Responder on Scene).

4. What equipment (medications/obs monitoring/etc.) do you issue CFRs?

The standard load list for CFRs is shown in the attached document. In addition, CFRs are issued with a medicines pouch containing aspirin, glucogel, and salbutamol.

5. Do CFRs use their own personal vehicles, or are they provided with trust issued vehicles.

CFRs respond in their own vehicles.

If so,

5.1. Do the trust provide the vehicles or is it from a charity?

5.2. Do your CFRs / is there plans for your CFRs to be trained to drive under emergency conditions

6. What is the criteria for a CFR to be dispatched? (If possible a list of suitable DX/AMPDS codes)

CFRs can be dispatched to any incident where deemed appropriate by the Resource Dispatcher, with the exception of the following:

- Violent situations
- Incidents involving drink or drugs (except where cardiac arrest is confirmed and there are no scene safety concerns)
- Psychiatric/suicidal patients (except where cardiac arrest is confirmed and there are no scene safety concerns)
- Road Traffic Collision (except where cardiac arrest is confirmed and scene safety/access should not be an issue, e.g., in a cul-de-sac or minor closed road)
- Any incidents on the motorway network (excluding service stations)
- Incidents known to be on a live carriageway (excluding pavements and lay-bys where there is parking available, and the scene does not need protection)
- Any incidents involving hazardous materials (HAZMAT)
- Any gynaecological or maternity related incident unless cardiac arrest or where the chief complaint appears to be unrelated.

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](https://www.ico.org.uk/for-organisations/our-roles-and-functions/complaints) (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