



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

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

5th February 2026  
Internal Ref: 260145  
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**

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information for the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25

1. The total number of patient episodes (e.g., emergency, inpatient, outpatient) recorded in your trust's systems where the patient was flagged as an asylum seeker or exempt from charging due to asylum/refugee status.
2. Total NHS expenditure associated with those episodes, by category where available (e.g., by service type such as A&E, inpatient, outpatient, prescriptions, maternity).
3. Whether your trust records immigration status or charging exemption coded that can distinguish asylum seekers from other charging exemption categories.

Please provide this information in a machine-readable format (E.G., CSV or Excel) where possible.

If you believe supplying financial cost data would exceed the appropriate limit, please provide patient episode counts and, separately, any cost figures you can supply.

I can confirm that I am requesting this information under the Freedom of Information Act, and I look forward to your response within 20 working days.



## Formal Response

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information for the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25

1. **The total number of patient episodes (e.g., emergency, inpatient, outpatient) recorded in your trust's systems where the patient was flagged as an asylum seeker or exempt from charging due to asylum/refugee status.**

SECAMB does **not record or flag** patients as asylum seekers, refugees, or by immigration status within its clinical or operational systems. The Trust therefore does **not hold** data on patient episodes identified by asylum or refugee status for the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24, or 2024/25.

2. **Total NHS expenditure associated with those episodes, by category where available (e.g., by service type such as A&E, inpatient, outpatient, prescriptions, maternity).**

As SECAMB does not record asylum seeker or refugee status, the Trust is unable to identify or calculate expenditure associated with patient episodes involving asylum seekers or refugees. This information is **not held**.

3. **Whether your trust records immigration status or charging exemption coded that can distinguish asylum seekers from other charging exemption categories.**

SECAMB does **not record immigration status**, asylum status, or NHS charging exemption categories within its patient records. The Trust provides emergency care irrespective of immigration or residency status, in line with NHS and statutory obligations.

**Please provide this information in a machine-readable format (E.G., CSV or Excel) where possible.**

**If you believe supplying financial cost data would exceed the appropriate limit, please provide patient episode counts and, separately, any cost figures you can supply.**

**I can confirm that I am requesting this information under the Freedom of Information Act, and I look forward to your response within 20 working days.**



## 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](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](#) (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](http://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