



Trust Headquarters
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West Sussex
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www.secamb.nhs.uk

18th March 2026
Internal Reference: 260225
Email:

Dear ,

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on 19/02/2026.
We have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.
Please ensure you quote the Internal Reference number above in any future correspondence.

Your Request

I am writing to obtain information about the number of non-British citizens treated by your trust. Please include the following for the previous 3 financial years (2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25) :

- The total number of non-British citizens treated in the previous 3 financial years.
- The total cost of treating those patients
- The total amount recovered from those patients
- The total number of adults treated who did not have a NHS number in the previous 3 financial years
- The total cost of treating those patients
- The total amount recovered from those patients

Formal Response



Saving Lives,
Serving Our Communities

Chair: Michael Whitehouse CEO: Simon Weldon

Non-British Citizens

1. The total number of non-British citizens treated:

The Trust does not hold patient citizenship data, so therefore are unable to provide the total number of non-British citizens treated.

2. The total cost of treatment:

As citizenship data is not held by the Trust, the total cost of treatment for non-British citizens cannot be established.

The average cost of treating all patients accessing our 999 service across the three-year period was:

2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
£314	£320	£334

3. The total amount recovered:

We do not recover costs from overseas patients due to the way we are commissioned to deliver the 999 emergency ambulance service to the people in Kent, Surrey and Sussex.

Adults with no NHS number

There is no suggestion that because the NHS number is not recorded that one does not exist.

However, below is the total number of electronic patient clinical records where no NHS number has been recorded and the patient’s age is documented as 18 or over.

2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
86,925	80,745	55,378

2. The total cost of treatment:

The average cost of treating all patients accessing our 999 service in each of the 3 years was:

2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
£314	£320	£334



3. The total amount recovered:

We do not recover costs from patients with no NHS number due to the way we are commissioned to deliver the 999 emergency ambulance service to the people in Kent, Surrey and Sussex.

Next steps

Some information held by the Trust is routinely published on our [website](#) and may be of assistance.

If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review.

Requests for an internal review should be submitted within **40 working days** of the date of this response and should be sent to:

Richard Banks, Head of Corporate Governance at FOI@secamb.nhs.uk

The internal review will be conducted by an individual who was not directly involved in handling your original request, ordinarily the Trust's Data Protection Officer. We aim to complete internal reviews within **20 working days** of receipt.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of the internal review, you may complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO generally expects complaints to be raised promptly following the completion of an internal review.

The easiest way to raise a complaint is via the ICO's website:
www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints

Alternatively, you may write to:
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Corporate Governance Team
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust



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