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21 August 2026
Internal Reference: 260812
Email:

Dear ,

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on **07/08/2026**.
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

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would be grateful if you could provide the following information for each calendar year from 2021 to the most recent period available.

1. The total number of ambulance incidents, call-outs or attendances where the primary reason for attendance was a dog bite, dog attack, or injury caused by a dog.
2. Where recorded, the age of the patient, grouped into the following bands:
 - Under 18
 - 18-24
 - 25-34
 - 35-44
 - 45-54
 - 55-64
 - 65+
3. The number of patients recorded as:
 - Postal workers, couriers and delivery drivers;
 - Utility workers, engineers or contractors.
4. Where recorded, the location of the incident:
 - Private property;
 - Public place;

- Workplace.
5. Where recorded, the breed or suspected breed involved in the incident.

Formal Response

The results for injuries caused by a dog have been identified where the terms 'dog bite' or 'dog attack' are mentioned in the call-taker notes. It is not possible to determine from the available data whether the dog-related injury was the primary reason for the call: the results only indicate that a dog bite or attack was mentioned in the notes.

Only incidents where a South East Coast Ambulance resource arrived on scene have been included.

We do not hold information on the patient's employment, so this breakdown has not been included.

We also do not hold a specific data field for dog breed. Identifying dog breeds would require searching the free-text notes for every possible breed and would therefore not provide a sufficiently reliable or feasible method of producing this breakdown.

The Trust can confirm that this information exists. However, where an output represents fewer than 5 individuals or incidents in the period requested, we have not provided exact figures. This practice is known as data blurring, which serves to mitigate against the risk of possible re-identification of individual data subjects via data recombination (sometimes referred to as jigsawing). This risk is assessed in accordance with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) Anonymisation Code of Practice.





Please refer to the table below:

Date Range: 01/01/2021 - 30/12/2025

Year	Location Type	Dog Bite/Attack Incident Count
2021	Private Place / Unknown	84
2021	Public Place	6
2022	Private Place / Unknown	72
2022	Public Place	5
2023	Private Place / Unknown	130
2023	Public Place	16
2024	Private Place / Unknown	142
2024	Public Place	14
2025	Private Place / Unknown	161
2025	Public Place	23

*please note this may not include all incidents with injuries by a dog and may exclude incidents where this has not been mentioned

Year	Age Range	Dog Bite/Attack Incident Count
2021	18-24	7
2021	25-34	10
2021	35-44	10
2021	45-54	7
2021	55-64	15
2021	65+	18
2021	Under 18	11
2021	Unknown	12
2022	18-24	<5
2022	25-34	8
2022	35-44	11
2022	45-54	7
2022	55-64	14
2022	65+	16
2022	Under 18	9
2022	Unknown	9
2023	18-24	16
2023	25-34	16
2023	35-44	22
2023	45-54	19
2023	55-64	16





2023	65+	25
2023	Under 18	17
2023	Unknown	15
2024	18-24	11
2024	25-34	23
2024	35-44	21
2024	45-54	24
2024	55-64	16
2024	65+	34
2024	Under 18	20
2024	Unknown	7
2025	18-24	9
2025	25-34	27
2025	35-44	24
2025	45-54	34
2025	55-64	17
2025	65+	45
2025	Under 18	20
2025	Unknown	8

***please note this may not include all incidents with injuries by a dog and may exclude incidents where this has not been mentioned**

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



Saving Lives,
Serving Our Communities

Chair: Colin Dennis, Interim CEO: Jen Allan