



Trust Headquarters
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West Sussex
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26th August 2026
Internal Reference: 260819
Email:

Dear ,

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on **29/07/2026**.
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 and our Formal Response

Please would you confirm for Gravesend town centre-

- What is the percentage of ambulances call outs for substance related medical emergencies,
- and whether this is above, below or in line with national average? I read online that the national average is 10-16%

NHS England does not publish a single national percentage for ambulance callouts relating to substance misuse. Published research and regional ambulance service studies suggest that alcohol and drug-related incidents may account for approximately 5-10% of ambulance demand overall, with substantially higher proportions during peak night-time and weekend periods.

- the number of call outs to Gravesend town centre for medical emergencies relating to consumption of alcohol, drugs including heroin, crack, cocaine, spice, mdma, ketamine, lsd, pink, speed and any other illegal or recreationally used drugs or new psychoactive substances, and misuse of prescription drugs,



Date Range: 01/04/2025 - 31/03/2026

Gravesend Town Centre: Postcodes 'DA11 0'

Please note that SECamb does not routinely record incidents by specific substance type. Data has therefore been identified using the following coding categories recorded on scene and therefore may not capture all incidents where alcohol or drugs were contributory factors.

- **Accidental Drug Overdose (disorder) F38**
- **Intentional Drug Overdose (disorder) O08**
- **Alcohol Intoxication (disorder) P00**
- **Intoxication caused by Recreational Drug Misuse (disorder) P05**

Please refer to the table below:

Incidents Attended	Substance Abuse	Substance Abuse %
2095	89	4%

Please would you advise if there are any factors we should consider, especially anything that would make this data more meaningful for our work?

We are pulling together a multi agency group to address the demands on staff working in town centre businesses, who are often first responders to medical emergencies, and we hope to find a holistic solution to the issue through partnership working, which I am sure will be beneficial to Secamb - should your organisation wish to be involved directly in this work please would you forward this email to the correct department?

The Trust does not provide individual names or contact details in response to FOI requests. Business enquiries can be made by emailing enquiries@secamb.nhs.uk.

Alternatively, names and roles of SECamb employees already in the public domain can be found via our website here: [About Us | SECamb](#)

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

