



40-42 Friars Walk
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East Sussex
BN7 2XW

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Email: foi@secamb.nhs.uk

15th April 2015

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/15/03/33.

You requested the following information:

1. Could you please provide me with the number of ambulance queues that lasted more than 30 minutes (handover delays of longer than 30 minutes – from ambulance to Accident and Emergency) for the year 2014-5, for the area that you cover.

I would like to stress that the NHS as a whole was extremely busy over the winter months and we have been working closely with our colleagues in the acute sector to ensure patients are handed over as swiftly as possible.

Please see attached our spreadsheet which shows the number of patients transported to the main hospitals in our region for the period from 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015. The document shows the number of patient handovers, the total number of recorded patient handovers and the number of patients waiting longer than 30 minutes and longer than 60 minutes.

Please note that the variation in the total number of handovers and the recorded number of handovers is due to the fact that while some admissions may not be recorded by both services, which is required for it to be logged as a recorded handover, some hospital admissions don't require attendance in A&E and patients may be taken directly to other wards or units at the hospital.

I have to make you aware that this data is unvalidated and has not been agreed with the hospitals.

2. Could you please provide me with the number of ambulance queues that lasted more than one hour (handover delays of longer than one hour – from ambulance to Accident and Emergency) for the year 2014-5, for the area that you cover.

Please see the attached spreadsheet.

3. Could you please provide me with what the longest handover delay was for the year 2014-5, for the area that you cover.

The longest handover delay in our area for the financial year 2014/2015 was 4 hours and 18 minutes and took place at Worthing Hospital in West Sussex.

I hope you find this information helpful.

If, for whatever reason you are unhappy with our response, you are entitled to pursue any dissatisfaction through South East Coast Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust's (SECAMB) Internal Review Procedure at:

South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
40-42 Friars Walk
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2XW
Email: complaints@secamb.nhs.uk

Should you remain unhappy with the outcome of any such internal review , you may request a decision from the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

If I can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me, quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Coordinator
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust