



40-42 Friars Walk
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East Sussex
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6th May 2015

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/15/04/18

You requested the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to formally request the following information:

1. Staff Numbers (Average over the whole year or the count on Monday, March 31st 2014)

Please see the table below which shows the number of staff

Categories	Staff groups included	Staff Headcount as at 31 March 2014
Ambulance Staff	A&E staff and managers HART operations staff EOC staff and managers	2460
Admin & Estates	Admin staff and managers	676
Other	PTS staff	332
Total		3468

HART- Hazardous Area Response Team
EOC- Emergency Operations Centre
PTS- Patient Transport Services

2. Staff Cost

The total staff costs for the financial year 2013/2014 were £123,367,000. This figure includes PAYE, National Insurance and Pension contributions and also the total agency spend mentioned in Question 4 below.

3. Agency Hours

We are unable to provide this information as we do not hold it in a reportable format. I regret to advise that we cannot provide any further information as requested on the grounds of the exemption contained within s.12 of the FOIA. To retrieve the information would necessitate manually checking each invoice. This would exceed the appropriate limit of 18 hours as set down in the guidance on the application of the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees).

4. Agency Spend

I would greatly appreciate it if you could supply this information for the year 2013/14 (April '13 to March '14).

Please see the table below which shows the agency expenditure within the Trust.

Area of Trust	Expenditure
Admin & Clerical	£ 2,581,000
Healthcare Assistants/ Other support	£ 51,000
Ambulance	£ 34,000
Total	£ 2,666,000

The above costs can be found in the 2013/2014 Annual Report and Accounts Note 10.1. Employee Costs, a copy of which can be located on the Trust's website by clicking on document library and then 'Annual Reports and Reviews'.

This figure represents the entire Trust agency costs for administration and support roles within all departments including Patient Transport Services, Emergency Operations Centres and NHS 111. The Trust's total operating expenditure for 2013/2014 was £186,776,000.

Could you please also confirm if you use a direct engagement model within your Trust? Direct engagement model means the Trust pays agency staff directly and then pays the agency commission separately. The alternative to this is to pay the agency a lump sum for any work done by agency staff and the Agency in turn pays their own staff.

We do not use the direct engagement model within our Trust.

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