



40-42 Friars Walk
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2XW

24th April 2015

Tel: 0300 123 0999
Email: foi@secamb.nhs.uk

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/15/04/01.

You requested the following information:

Recently the Migration Advisory Committee's (MAC's) shortage occupation list said there are no longer enough paramedics for the UK's needs.

I was hoping to get a clearer picture of the situation across the country, and wondered if you could answer the following questions:

- **Firstly, how many paramedics have been employed at the trust for the financial years 2010-11; 2011-12; 2012-13; 2013-14; and 2014-15?**

Please see the table below which shows the number of paramedics employed each year from the financial year 2010/2011 to the financial year 2014/2015.

Paramedic numbers (excluding bank)		
As at 31 March	Headcount	Full Time Equivalent
2011	461	417.32
2012	507	462.56
2013	544	498.72
2014	573	529.29
2015	666	623.72

- **For each of the financial years, how many paramedic vacancies were not filled at the Trust?**

The Trust recruited 184 paramedics in 2014/15 and this resulted in 21 vacancies unfilled as at 31st March 2015. Data is not held on the previous years.

• Also, how many paramedics have been brought into the trust from other countries be it in the EU or outside the EU?

The Trust recruited 24 paramedics from Australia throughout 2014/15.

• And, finally, what measures are your trust putting in place to encourage paramedic vacancies to be filled?

We currently undertake the following to attract paramedic candidates:

- The Trust is actively working with UK universities to engage with the Paramedic graduates
- Offering excellent career progression pathways to Specialist Paramedic roles i.e. Paramedic Practitioners & Critical Care Paramedic.
- All our paramedic opportunities are publicised regularly on our social media sites, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.
- All our paramedic roles are advertised on an ongoing basis on www.jobs.nhs.uk website to enable prospective candidates to apply at any time.

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