



40-42 Friars Walk
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2XW

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

1st June 2015

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/15/05/06.

You requested the following information:

Please provide details of the following:

1a) For the financial year 2014-5, please provide the number of incidents where your ambulance service has used specialist equipment to move obese patients, or where the fire service has been called in to help move them.

In each case, please provide

- b) The date of the incident**
- c) The age of the patient**
- d) The weight of the patient (estimation will do)**
- e) What specialist equipment was used to move the patient, e.g. reinforced ambulance or stretcher, crane, etc.**
- f) Did the fire service assist?**
- g) Time taken to transport patient to hospital or care facility**

2a-f) Same for the financial year 2013-2014

3a-f) Same for the financial year 2012-2013

Please see the attached spreadsheet which shows information for the financial years 2012/2013, 2013/2014 and 2014/2015. This information is based on the call signs used by our bariatric ambulances for emergency responses and provides the response date and time (arrival on scene of incident) and the time of arrival of the ambulance at hospital. Where there is no time in the column denotes that the patient was treated on scene and was not transported to hospital. 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 scrutinizing each

incident record to see if the patients age, weight, details of equipment used or whether the Fire Service assisted was included .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).

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