



40-42 Friars Walk
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2XW

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

9th July 2015

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/15/06/18.

You requested the following information:

How much money was spent by your Trust on private ambulances in each of the following months?

2013	2014
January 2013	January 2014
February 2013	February 2014
March 2013	March 2014
April 2013	April 2014
May 2013	May 2014
June 2013	June 2014
July 2013	July 2014
August 2013	August 2014
September 2013	September 2014
October 2013	October 2014
November 2013	November 2014
December 2013	December 2014

The Trust continues to look at ways in which we can reduce our reliance on the use of private ambulance services and always prioritise using our own staff whenever possible. However, along with all ambulance services nationally, South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SECamb) does use private ambulance providers when faced with high levels of demand, when experiencing high call volume or during periods of bad weather.

We have robust governance arrangements in place for the procurement of private ambulance services. While working on our behalf any private provider will be subject to a continuous monitoring and assessment process, to ensure they are providing a high level of service.

Please see the table below which shows the expenditure on private ambulance providers and voluntary ambulance services for 2013 and 2014 broken down into monthly spend for A & E cover and Patient Transport Services (Non- Emergency).

SECAmb Private Ambulance Expenditure from January 2013 - December 2014

	Emergency £'000	Non Emergency £'000	Totals £'000
Jan-13	448	300	748
Feb-13	520	397	917
Mar-13	727	175	902
Apr-13	649	89	738
May-13	697	222	919
Jun-13	873	324	1,197
Jul-13	898	435	1,333
Aug-13	1023	257	1,280
Sep-13	1028	450	1,478
Oct-13	1284	314	1,598
Nov-13	773	410	1,183
Dec-13	525	230	755
Total 2013	9,445	3,603	13,048
Jan-14	680	200	880
Feb-14	701	224	925
Mar-14	1137	235	1,372
Apr-14	1023	113	1,136
May-14	1173	75	1,248
Jun-14	827	194	1,021
Jul-14	1271	178	1,449
Aug-14	1119	185	1,304
Sep-14	1055	223	1,278
Oct-14	1331	208	1,539
Nov-14	931	175	1,106
Dec-14	1082	156	1,238
Total 2014	12,330	2,166	14,496
Grand Totals	21,775	5,769	27,544

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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