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East Sussex
BN7 2XW

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26th August 2015

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/15/08/08.

You requested the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, could you provide me with a database extract for the past two years (2014 and 2015 to date) with data for every ambulance handover, containing columns for A&E department where handover took place, notification time or time ambulance arrived at A&E, time handover took place or handover time, what level of call the ambulance was on (e.g. Red 1 etc.).

Otherwise, please could you provide the following information:

- The total number of ambulance handovers for each month for the past two years (2014 and 2015 to date), broken down by hospital**
- The number of ambulance handovers that took 15 minutes or less for each month for the past two years (2014 and 2015 to date), broken down by hospital**
- The number of ambulance handovers delayed by more than 30 minutes for each month for the past two years (2014 and 2015 to date), broken down by hospital**
- The number of ambulance handovers delayed by more than 60 minutes for each month for the past two years (2014 and 2015 to date), broken down by hospital**

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

We do not routinely report handover by category as the category is used to determine how we respond to an incident which may not turn out to be the same as what the crew find when they arrive.

Please see the attached spreadsheets showing the total number of handovers for each hospital in our area from January 2014 to December 2014 and January 2015 to July 2015. Please note that there is a column for handovers and one for recorded patient handovers. This is because not all handovers are recorded in the A & E department due to patients being taken to direct to wards or specialist departments. The spreadsheets also show the number of patients waiting less than 15 minutes, more than 30 minutes and more than 60 minutes to be handed over to hospital staff. The figure for those patients waiting longer than 60 minutes will be included in the greater than 30 minutes figure.

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

