



40-42 Friars Walk
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2XW

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

19th November 2015

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/15/10/33.

You requested the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please could you tell me how many addresses in the ambulance service area have been 'red-flagged' or marked on the system as needing police support before ambulance crews or paramedics can enter in each year, 2015 (to date), 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011.

If possible, please provide the information broken down by the local authority the address is in. We are mindful of our duty to our staff and do not want to expose them to any unnecessary hazards which includes incidents where they may be subjected to potential violence. In making this assessment however, we do not deem it appropriate to "flag" entire areas, but instead will history mark individual addresses where and when it is appropriate. These history markers are regularly reviewed to ensure that the risk associated with the individual remains potential and real.

The Trust maintains a log of addresses where the patient/s (or other residents at the address) concerned are considered to represent an actual or potential danger to our staff.

A red marker relates to the highest risk category and is defined as those addresses where information available makes it clear that staff have been physically assaulted or threatened with violence.

An amber marker relates to those addresses where information available makes it clear that there is a potential risk to crews, or of abusive, aggressive/ inappropriate behaviour.

When The Trust responds to a marked address, the Emergency Operations Centre will alert the attending crew to the nature of the marker to ensure they are aware of the potential risk; in some cases this will include instructions to await the arrival of the police prior to approaching the property in question.

I can confirm that there are currently 23 addresses with red markers in our region and 56 addresses with amber markers.

The towns with red markers currently are:

Tarring
Brighton x 2
Hastings
Rustington
St Leonards x 2
Worthing
Meopham
Minster
Gravesend x 2
Maidstone
Dartford
Gillingham
Tunbridge Wells
Godalming
Farnborough
Walton on Thames
Camberley
Aldershot
Farnham
Crawley

The towns with amber markers currently are:

Littlehampton
St Leonards x 4
Eastbourne
Bexhill x 2
Chichester
Lancing
Goring
Brighton
Worthing
Hailsham
Selsey
Southwick
Pyecombe
Tonbridge
Rochester
Burham
Rainham
Sittingbourne

Dover
Chatham x 2
Otford
Dartford
Folkestone x 2
Westgate
Ditton
Ashford
Tunbridge Wells
Rushenden
Aldershot
Tadworth
Englefield Green
Stanwell x 2
Weybridge
Yateley
Abinger Hammer
Woking x 2
Shepperton
Farnborough x 2
Horsham x 2
Epsom x 2
Bramley
Claygate
Egham
Guildford x 2

We only hold current details of markers on addresses.

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