



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/15/11/23.

You requested the following information:

Would you be able to confirm the nearest Ambulance Station to my address, as above, how many ambulances there are there and what area they cover?

South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust no longer has traditional ambulance stations in your area as our ambulance staff operate from a large Make Ready Centre located in Paddock Wood supported by Ambulance Community Response Posts (ACRPs). The nearest ACRP to Horsmonden would be Tonbridge or Paddock Wood itself. With regards to how many ambulances or Single Response Vehicles would be there at any one time would difficult to say as this is dependent on hourly demand.

Traditionally ambulance crews have been responsible for cleaning and restocking ambulances before and after shifts. Within the Make Ready system, specialist teams of staff are employed to clean, restock and maintain vehicles.

These teams are responsible for regularly deep-cleaning and swabbing vehicles for the presence of micro-organisms including MRSA and CDiff. They restock ambulances to a standardised specification, checking and servicing equipment on regular basis. To reduce the risk of vehicle breakdowns, on-site vehicle maintenance experts are also on-hand to undertake routine checks and maintenance.

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