



40-42 Friars Walk
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2XW

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

27th November 2015

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/15/11/11.

You requested the following information:

Please could you provide details of dog attacks attended by paramedics and other medical staff employed by the service between October 2013 and October 2015?

Please provide details about how the injuries were caused, the location of the call-out, the date, the injuries and the age of the patient.

Please specify what action was taken by paramedics in stabilising the patient or conveying to hospital, air ambulance or further treatment.

If the type of animal is not specified in your records please provide the information for animal attacks instead.

I can confirm that during the period from 1st October 2013 to 30th September 2014 South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SECamb) responded to 543 emergency calls where the nature of the problem was a dog bite, dog attack or the patient was knocked over by a dog. During the period from 1st October 2014 to 30th September 2015 SECamb responded to 485 emergency calls where the nature of the problem was a dog bite, dog attack or the patient was knocked over by a dog.

We are unable to provide the location of the incidents as this may be potentially identifiable information. With regards to the action taken and age of the patient I regret to advise that we cannot provide any further information as requested on the grounds of exemption contained within s.12 of the FOIA. To retrieve the information would necessitate manually searching through the Patient Clinical Records relating to the total number of 1028 incidents. 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