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Lewes  
East Sussex  
BN7 2XW

Tel: 0300 123 0999  
Email: [foi@secamb.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@secamb.nhs.uk)

7th January 2016

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/15/12/17.

You requested the following information:

**Under the Freedom of Information Act I am making a request for information about violence and abuse directed towards ambulance staff in the Ashford area from January 1st 2015 until December 15th 2015.**

**In specific, I would like to find out the total number of recorded attacks either physical or verbal towards ambulance staff in Ashford during this time period.**

**I would like a breakdown of any information about the individual incidents and whether any prosecution action was taken.**

I regret to advise that we will be unable to provide you with the requested information. Having checked our incident reporting database, the area field is optional and it would appear has not been completed by most reporting staff so therefore any data search would be inaccurate as there is no other mechanism to retrieve data for an area.

At this time we are only able to retrieve data either by county, which would be too wide for this request, or by Operational Dispatch Area or the station the reporting crew came from. This would also be inaccurate as this would include Ashford crews in attendance out of the area and miss crews attending in the Ashford area.

For information on South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust as a whole please click on the following link:

<http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/3647.aspx>

To locate the information, please click on the statistics heading in the left hand column and then on the relevant financial year for the information you require. The figures on reported physical assaults

for South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust for previous financial years can be found here.

I am sorry that I cannot be more helpful on this occasion.

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](mailto: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