



40/42 Friars Walk  
Lewes  
East Sussex  
BN7 2XW

[foi@secamb.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@secamb.nhs.uk)

3rd August 2016

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/16/07/24.

You requested the following information:

- 1) How many of your paramedics have reported being assaulted and/or attacked while on duty in the past five years?**
- 2) How many of your paramedics have reported being threatened while on duty in the past five years?**

**I would be happy for the information to be emailed to me, and would appreciate a year-by-year breakdown of the numbers.**

Our Trust views assaults against its staff very seriously. Our Local Security Management Specialist actively promotes awareness of our zero-tolerance stance with regard to assaults on staff and encourages staff to report incidents.

The Trust also ensures that our operational staff are provided with conflict resolution training to minimise the risks of assaults.

The Trust externally reports on an annual basis to NHS Protect statistics of the number of physical assaults, court/criminal and civil/custody and administrative sanctions. This data is audited and published by NHS Protect covering all Trusts nationally. These reports can be found via <http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/3645.aspx>.

Whilst the data for 2015-16 is not yet available this is anticipated to be published by NHS Protect in early November and we expect to see a rise in assaults and positively, a significant rise in reported sanctions for our Trust.

Our current Local Security Management Specialist, who was appointed in 2015, has prioritised this area of work and submitted a total of 44 sanctions (inclusive of both civil and prosecution sanctions) for the financial year 2015-16 for the 184 incident reports of physical assault.

We anticipate a small increase in the number of assaults and sanctions, following audit of our data by NHS Protect. This is as a result of the way in which the Trust collects the data, by the number of incidents (which may involve multiple victims); whereas NHS Protect collects data by the number of victims.

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](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