



40/42 Friars Walk  
Lewes  
East Sussex  
BN7 2XW

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

14th November 2016

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/16/10/29.

You requested the following information:

**How many frontline paramedic posts were unfilled in a) 2013/14, b) 2014/15, and c) 2015/16 and d) Year to Date.**

Please see the table below which shows the requested information:

Year	Paramedic Vacancies
2013/14	56
2014/15	80
2015/16	105
2016/17 YTD	138

**If possible, please could you provide me with a reason for the unfilled posts, if it is the case that posts have not been filled.**

Increased activity means that we need more clinically skilled staff; however a national shortage of skilled clinical staff across the country means it is a challenge for any Ambulance Trust to recruit paramedics. Unfilled posts are filled by a combination of overtime and the provision of third party resources.

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