



40/42 Friars Walk
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2XW

foi@secamb.nhs.uk

24th February 2017

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/17/02/21.

You requested the following information:

I am writing to make a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) for information relating to the following services:

- **Grounds maintenance / landscaping**
- **Winter maintenance services i.e. gritting and snow clearance services**
- **Pest control services**

All our maintenance is covered under a facilities maintenance contract with Rydon, so we do not have separate costs for individual elements of the service such as pest control or grounds maintenance. The contract start date was 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2020.

I have to advise that I am unable to provide any further information on the basis of the exemption contained within s43 (2) of the FOI Act (Commercial Interests). The Trust accepts that there is a public interest in how public money is spent; however, there is also a need to withhold information that would prejudice the commercial interest of the Trust and/ or third parties. In assessing the public interest, the Trust takes the view that this would be the case in this instance. The Trust considers that this information, in conjunction with other information that might already or will be in the public domain, could lead to the commercial interests of the Trust together with the companies we use being adversely affected.

I hope you find this information useful.

If for any reason you are dissatisfied with our response, kindly in the first instance contact Caroline Smart, Information Governance Manager via the following email address:

FOI@secamb.nhs.uk

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Coordinator
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust