



40/42 Friars Walk
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2XW

foi@secamb.nhs.uk

8th March 2017

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/17/02/03.

You requested the following information:

In 2014 I have reason to believe that SECamb did not register staff that had completed their IHCD D1+D2 blue light driving qualification. I believe that SECamb has thus allowed it's staff to claim exemptions to the Road Traffic Act illegally.

I wish to know what is/has been done to correct this.

Along with all other statutory Ambulance Services we have required operational staff to undertake a nationally accredited driving course for the past 35 years. This course used to be accredited by the Institute of Health Care and Development (IHCD) and since January 2016 the accreditation has changed to FutureQuals.

The current course is a Level 3 Emergency Response Driving course of a 4-week duration. It is designed to equip the student with the skills and knowledge required to drive service vehicles in response and non-response situations. The learning outcomes and standards have been written and agreed by the Driver Training Advisory Group (DTAG), FutureQuals and the Association of Ambulance Chief Executives (AACE).

We, as a Trust, hold a database of drivers who have completed the IHCD or FutureQuals driving course. It has been brought to the attention of Driver Training that there are some people who attended one of the IHCD courses who were not registered with Pearsons / Edexcel as the awarding body at the time. This was an administrative error at the time and we are able to back register those affected with Pearsons / Edexcel to provide them with their course certificate.

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