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13th April 2017

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/17/03/29.

You requested the following information:

I work as a Paramedic for the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service and our service is launching HEMS in the next few months. Applications are now open for the position of HEMS paramedic for which I am applying.

In preparation for interview I want to request previous interview questions.

Could I request all previous air ambulance HEMS paramedic interview questions from the past 6 years (from January 2011 to present) under the freedom of information request.

I understand there is a timeframe for these requests but if my request could be expedited I would appreciate it as interviews are expected to commence within next 3-4 weeks.

A selection of competency based questions are usually asked at interview during which time the candidate is requested to provide examples around the relevant role specification.

I cannot provide any further information on the basis of the exemption contained within s43 (2) of the FOI Act (Commercial Interests). There is 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 other applicants being adversely affected. By releasing the requested information, we would be giving an applicant an 'unfair' advantage and would therefore not be treating candidates equally.

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