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3rd April 2017

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/17/03/09.

You requested the following information:

Please supply, electronically if possible, the SECAMB Driver Training Strategy referred to in an advert for Driving Instructors Job Reference: 278-DI-0317-ES

The driver training strategy for SECAMB is to deliver emergency response driving courses to a suitable standard to meet the awarding body requirements. (This will include using suitable qualified instructors).

Secondly please supply details of the numbers of Driving Instructors currently employed by SECAMB, who hold ADI qualifications.

SECAMB have driving instructors employed in permanent roles and also driving instructors who are on bank contracts. There are 6 driving instructors and one Driver Training Manager employed on permanent contracts. They either already have their ADI qualification or are in the process of their final sign off to be qualified.

Please state how many drivers have been trained by SECAMB since April 2015.

You confirmed that you wished to know the numbers of ambulance staff trained.

We have trained 567 people in emergency response driving from April 2015 to January 2017. This relates to the 4 week driving course.

Please state how many sub-contractor Driving Instructors have been used by SECAMB since April 2015

We have a contract for driver training from external providers. The contractor provides driving instructors when required.

We also use instructors who have a bank contract with SECamb.

There is a tender currently out on the procurement portal for external provision of instructors so am unable to give more information than this 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.

Please supply the cost of sub contracted Driving Instructors since 2015.

Please see above exemption which also applies to this question.

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