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Lewes
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foi@secamb.nhs.uk

28th March 2017

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/17/03/07.

You requested the following information:

It's come to our attention at Kings Hill Parish Council, that an ambulance was preventing from getting to an address in Kings Hill last night due to inconsiderate parking.

We have ongoing concerns about such parking and will shortly be involved in a full review to see what we can do to try and reduce the problem.

Obviously one of the most serious concerns is parking that blocks access for emergency vehicles.

We are would interested to know if ambulance crews log call-outs where they can't get to an address and if you therefore have a record of how often this happens? If so, is it something you can share with us ?

As an Ambulance Service we do, on many occasions, respond to emergency calls at an address or incident location where we cannot, for a variety of reasons, park at or near the location of the patient. Examples of these would be a shopping centre, a block of flats, sports injuries on playing fields or people hiking through woods.

What we do endeavour to do, is by whatever means, reach the patient and then administer medical treatment. This on many occasions means our crews having to walk and take equipment with them, including carry chairs and trolleys with which to extricate the patient back to the ambulance.

We do not log the instances when there have been difficulties in reaching patients due to situations like those above or where inconsiderate parking has blocked our access as it is more important that we deal with the patient and the situation presented as quickly and effectively as possible.

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