



South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS
Foundation Trust
Nexus House
Gatwick Road
Crawley
RH10 9BG

Date 1st September 2017

Email:foi@secamb.nhs.uk

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/17/08/12.

You requested the following information, please also see our response below:

1. Since 1 January 2016, which debt collection agency/agencies has the Trust used to recover costs from chargeable overseas NHS patients?

The Trust has no chargeable overseas NHS Patients, therefore, we have not required the use of a debt collection agent.

2. If the Trust contracted an agency/agencies to recover debts from chargeable overseas patients, please provide the following details about this financial arrangement in the period from 1 January 2016 until the present:

- i) What was the duration and value of this contract (including all extra fees, such as but not limited to commission fees and “no win, no fee” fees)?
- ii) What was the total value of all debts recovered, and the total value of chargeable overseas patients' debts recovered?
- iii) What was the value of chargeable overseas patients' debts that were passed along to the agency/agencies but remain unrecovered?

The trust has not contracted an agency to recover debts therefore the above questions do not apply

3. If the Trust has sold chargeable overseas patients' debts onto an agency/agencies, please provide the following details about this financial arrangement in the period from 1 January 2016 until the present:

- i) What was the number and value of chargeable overseas patients' debts that were sold on?
- ii) At what rate were these debts sold on, as compared to their original value (please state a range if different debts were sold at different rates)?

The trust has not sold chargeable overseas patients' debts onto an agency therefore the above questions do not apply

Please note we are commissioned to provide an emergency service to the general public, this includes visitors from overseas requiring emergency / urgent treatment. We are paid for this activity

from the Commissioner irrespective of the person's country of residence. As such we do not have any income from overseas patients and therefore no debt occurs.

I hope you find this information of some assistance.

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