



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

Date 29th September 2017

Email:

Email:foi@secamb.nhs.uk

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/17/08/24.

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

Q1: Ambulances:

For ambulances owned or managed by your trust in a) 2016/17, b) 2015/16, and c) 2010/11:

1. How many ambulances did your trust own or manage in each year
2. What is the average age of ambulances used in each year
3. What is the oldest ambulance used in each year
4. How many ambulances failed their MOT in each year
5. How much money was spent on repairing ambulances in each year
6. How much money was spent purchasing new ambulances in each year
7. How many times in each year an ambulance broke down a) in total and b) while on a call out for a patient.

Please see table below;

	FY 2010/2011	FY 2015/2016	FY 2016/2017
Ambulances Managed	253	301	299
Average Age	9	6	7
Oldest Ambulance	13	11	12
Failed MOT*	no records	no records	no records
Money Spent Repairing Ambulances	£231,331.02	£2,978,282.00	£3,265,135.00
Money Spent Purchasing Ambulances	£4,058,251.03	£42,816.73	£ -
Ambulance Break Downs**	334	338	328

*As an Ambulance Trust it is not our practice to record any MOT failures therefore we have been unable to report on this information as part of this FOI. All our Trust vehicles regardless of role type undertake an MOT along with a service or pre MOT inspection to limit any failures occurring.

**Please note we only record when an ambulance has broken down but not what they were doing at the time so are unable to answer question 7b.

Q2: Guidance:

What is your trust's guidance on how long each ambulance can be used for before being replaced; have any changes been made in the past ten years to that guidance; and if so what those changes are.

We try to operate a 7-year replacement program for our DCA's although this has been extended in recent years where funds to purchase all the new vehicles required within these parameters may not have been readily available at the time. A vehicle will however only be kept on the road as long as it is fit for purpose and safe and meets all legal requirements required to for fill its duties. We will be aiming to return to our 7-year replacement plan over the next few years.

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