



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

Date 6th 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/17/08/20.

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

For the past three years, up to and including the most recent data you hold, please can I have the following

*** How many paramedics have been attacked or assaulted while on duty in Kent?**

*** For the above results, can you please specify:**

The date and time the assault took place

The location the attack or assault took place in (at least the town if you don't have an exact street address, please, so I can direct the results to the appropriate newspaper within our company)

The gender of the paramedic

The injuries they sustained

Any details you have on the person who carried out the attack or assault, including their gender, their approximate age, whether they were under the influence of alcohol or drugs, whether they were arrested, charged, found or pleaded guilty, whether they were a patient being treated or not.

With regards to date and time the assault took place we do not record the data in this way as we report on when the incident form was received, not when the incident occurred.

Broken down by location to an area is possible but for the time period specified it would require a manual review of each file exceeding 18 hours and be exempt under Section 12- FOI (Appropriate limit and fees) Regulations 2004. However, we have broken down the data for Kent only for the most recent financial year (2016-2017) as the current way we now record data since April 2016 makes this available.

The gender is not reportable on as a single incident report may contain multiple victims, including an incident report which may contain offences in addition to assault and so it is not possible to distinguish which victim, and therefore which gender relates, without a manual audit of every

incident, which would exceed 18 hours and be exempt under Section 12- FOI (Appropriate limit and fees) Regulations 2004.

Injuries sustained cannot be provided as this would exceed 18 hours and be exempt under Section 12- FOI (Appropriate limit and fees) Regulations 2004

We cannot provide details of the offender as this is exempt under Section 40 (2) – Data Protection

Please see table below which shows the amount of physical assaults on all frontline staff (not just paramedics) trust wide for each financial year. This includes physical assaults as a result of medical factors

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
No. of Reported Physical Assaults	98	111	113	126	207	234

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
No. of Reported Sanctions for Physical Assaults	22	16	9	0	49	104

Please see table below shows the breakdown for the Kent area for the financial year of 2016-2017

County	Region	Date Incident Report Received	Sub category	Aggravating factors	Number of Victims of Physical Assault	Number of Criminal Sanctions for Physical Assault	Number of Local Sanctions for Physical Assault	Total Sanctions
Kent	Thanet	April	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL DRUG	1	0	0	0
Kent	Ashford	April	Physical Assault (General)	Medical	1	0	0	0
Kent	Ashford	April	Physical Assault (General)	Medical	1	0	0	0
Kent	Ashford	April	Physical Assault (General)	Alcohol	1	0	0	0
Kent	Ashford	April	Physical Assault (General)	Drugs	1	0	1	1
Kent	Shepway	May	Physical Assault (Sexually	Alcohol	1	0	1	1

			Aggravated)					
Kent	Medway	May	Physical Assault (General)	None	1	0	0	0
Kent	Maidstone	May	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL DRUG	1	1	0	1
Kent	Medway	May	Physical Assault (General)	Alcohol	1	1	0	1
Kent	Dartford	May	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL DRUG MENTH	1	0	0	0
Kent	Swale	May	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL MENTH WEAPON	1	0	0	0
Kent	Dartford	June	Physical Assault (General)	Alcohol	1	0	1	1
Kent	Thanet	June	Physical Assault (General)	Medical	1	0	1	1
Kent	Ashford	July	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL DRUG	1	0	0	0
Kent	Medway	July	Physical Assault (General)	OTHER MEDICAL	1	0	0	0
Kent	Medway	July	Physical Assault (General)	None	1	0	0	0
Kent	Ashford	July	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL DRUG	1	0	0	0
Kent	Medway	July	Physical Assault (General)	Mental Health	2	1	1	4
Kent	Medway	July	Physical Assault (General)	Drugs	1	0	0	0
Kent	Ashford	July	Physical Assault (General)	Mental Health	1	0	0	0
Kent	Canterbury	July	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL DRUG MENTH RACIAL SEXUAL	1	0	0	0
Kent	Swale	July	Physical Assault (General)	Mental Health	1	0	1	1
Kent	Maidstone	July	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL DRUG	1	0	0	0
Kent	Maidstone	August	Physical	Medical	1	0	0	0

			Assault (General)					
Kent	Maidstone	August	Physical Assault (General)	Alcohol	1	0	0	0
Kent	Medway	August	Physical Assault (General)	OTHER MEDICAL	1	0	0	0
Kent	Gravesham	August	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL MENTH	1	0	0	0
Kent	Swale	August	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL OTHER	2	1	1	4
Kent	Maidstone	September	Physical Assault (General)		1	0	0	0
Kent	Tunbridge Wells	September	Physical Assault (General)	Alcohol	1	0	0	0
Kent	Thanet	September	Physical Assault (General)	Medical	1	0	0	0
Kent	Thanet	September	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL MENTH	1	0	0	0
Kent	Thanet	September	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL DRUG	1	0	0	0
Kent	Thanet	September	Physical Assault (General)	Alcohol	2	0	0	0
Kent	Dover	September	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL MENTH SEXUAL	1	1	0	1
Kent	Medway	September	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL DRUG	2	0	0	0
Kent	Maidstone	September	Physical Assault (General)	DRUG MENTH	1	0	1	1
Kent	Dover	October	Physical Assault (General)	Mental Health	1	0	1	1
Kent	Medway	October	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL DRUG MENTH	1	0	0	0
Kent	Dover	October	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL MENTH	1	0	1	1
Kent	Thanet	October	Physical Assault (General)	Medical	1	0	0	0
Kent	Maidstone	October	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL MENTH	1	0	0	0

Kent	Ashford	October	Physical Assault (General)		1	0	0	0
Kent	Thanet	October	Physical Assault (General)	Other	1	0	0	0
Kent	Ashford	November	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL DRUG MENTH	1	0	0	0
Kent	Maidstone	November	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL MENTH	1	0	1	1
Kent	Maidstone	November	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL DRUG MDICAL MENTH	1	0	0	0
Kent	Medway	November	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL SEXUAL	1	1	0	1
Kent	Medway	November	Physical Assault (General)	Alcohol	1	0	0	0
Kent	Tunbridge Wells	December	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL DRUG	1	0	0	0
Kent	Thanet	December	Physical Assault (General)	Medical	2	0	0	0
Kent	Dartford	December	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL DRUG	1	0	0	0
Kent	Medway	December	Physical Assault (General)	Alcohol	1	0	0	0
Kent	Tunbridge Wells	December	Physical Assault (Sexually Aggravated)	ALCOHOL SEXUAL	1	1	0	1
Kent	Tonbridge and Malling	December	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL MDICAL MENTH WEAPON	1	0	1	1
Kent	Maidstone	January	Physical Assault (General)	Alcohol	1	0	0	0
Kent	Swale	January	Physical Assault (General)		1	0	1	1
Kent	Medway	January	Physical Assault (General)	None	1	0	1	1
Kent	Maidstone	January	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL DRUG	1	0	1	1
Kent	Maidstone	January	Physical Assault	ALCOHOL DRUG	1	0	0	0

			(General)	MENTH				
Kent	Canterbury	January	Physical Assault (General)		1	0	1	1
Kent	Maidstone	February	Physical Assault (General)	Mental Health	1	0	1	1
Kent	Maidstone	February	Physical Assault (General)	Mental Health	1	0	1	1
Kent	Ashford	February	Physical Assault (General)	Alcohol	1	0	0	0
Kent	Ashford	February	Physical Assault (General)	Alcohol	1	0	0	0
Kent	Swale	February	Physical Assault (General)		1	0	1	1
Kent	Tonbridge and Malling	February	Physical Assault (General)	Mental Health	1	0	1	1
Kent	Gravesham	February	Physical Assault (General)	Alcohol	2	0	1	2
Kent	Thanet	March	Physical Assault (Sexually Aggravated)	ALCOHOL SEXUAL	1	0	1	1
Kent	Dartford, Gravesham	March	Physical Assault (General)	Alcohol	1	0	0	0
Kent	Shepway	March	Physical Assault (General)	Alcohol	1	0	0	0
Kent	Maidstone	March	Physical Assault (Sexually Aggravated)	Sexual	1	0	0	0
Kent	Swale	March	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL DRUG MENTH	1	0	0	0
Kent	Canterbury	March	Physical Assault (General)	ALCOHOL MENTH	2	0	0	0

Totals for Kent 2016-2017

Total Number of Incidents	74
Total Number of Victims of Physical Assault	81
Total Number of Sanctions (to date)*	34

*Some cases are still ongoing

Our Trust views assaults against its staff very seriously. Our Local Security Management Specialist actively promotes awareness of our zero-tolerance stance with regard to assaults on staff and encourages staff to report incidents.

The Trust also ensures that our operational staff are provided with conflict resolution training to minimise the risks of assaults.

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