



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

Date 16th April 2018

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/18/01/20.

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

1. What contracts are you engaged in with private ambulance providers? (e.g. A&E, Patient Transport Service, etc.)

A&E

2. What are the names of the companies you use and what type of work do they do for the trust? E.g. Jigsaw – A&E; St John's Ambulance – community first responders, etc.

British Red Cross – A&E

Medical Services Ltd – A&E

Sites Ambulance Services Ltd – A&E

St John Ambulance – A&E

SSG-UK Specialist Ambulance Services Ltd – A&E

3. What job roles/skill grades do the companies provide? E.g. Jigsaw, A&E, paramedics/technicians/emergency care assistants

Medical Services & SSG-UK have the ability and approved governance to provide Paramedics, Technicians and ECA's.

SITES, SJA & BRC approved to provide Technicians and ECAs.

The provision of skill sets by company varies dependant on Trust requirements and shift allocations requested by the Trust to each company.

4. Why does the Trust use private firms? E.g. is it more cost effective? If so, why? (E.g. the Trust doesn't have to pay sick pay/pension)

The Trusts decision to utilise Private Providers is to only provide resources in areas where there are Trust staff front-line vacancies and to cover peaks in demand

5. How much did the trust pay in total for private providers over the last three financial years; 2017/18, 2016/17, 2015/16? Please provide a total figure for each financial year stated.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18*
999	£11,127,000.00	£10,845,000.00	£10,004,000.00

PTS*	£2,500,000.00	£331,000.00	Nil
TOTAL	£13,627,000.00	£11,176,000.00	£10,004,000.00

*These figures are up to and including 28th February 2018

Please note we stopped providing PTS Services on 31st March 2017

6. Has the Trust made savings since using private firms? What savings has the trust made in each of these financial years (2017/18, 2016/17, 2015/16) since/through using private providers? Please give a figure per financial year stated.

N/A. As stated above the Trust's decision to utilise Private Providers is to only provide resources in areas where there are Trust staff front-line vacancies and to cover peaks in demand

7. Please provide figures to highlight the trust's performance/quality indicators over the last three financial years (2017/18, 2016/17, 2015/16), e.g. percentage of emergency response within eight minutes for Red 1 calls and percentage for Red 2 calls: for example; 2017/18, Red 1 = 60%, Red 2 = 60%, 2016/17, Red 1 = 58%, Red 2 = 58%

Please see table below:

	2015/16	2016/17	2017*
Red 1 responses in 8 mins	71.3%	64.9%	60.8%
Red 2 responses in 8 mins	67.2%	52.5%	46.4%

*this data is up to and including 21st November

	22 Nov 2017 - 31 Dec 2017
Cat 1 Mean in 7 mins	00:08:31
Cat 2 Mean in 18 mins	00:18:17

On 22nd November 2017 SECamb adopted the Ambulance Response Programme. This implements new ambulance standards and introduced a number of new call categories. For more information on ARP please visit the following website: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/urgent-emergency-care/arp/>

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