



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

Date 6th March 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/18/02/23.

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

Please can I request the following information about alcohol related assaults on ambulance staff /paramedics over the festive period (22nd of December - 2nd Jan) please can I request the latest figures that you have alongside the figures for the past five years within these dates.

1. Please can I request the figures of alcohol related assaults on ambulance staff/paramedics for these dates for each of the different areas: Kent, Surrey, West Sussex and East Sussex.

Please see table below which shows reported incidents involving alcohol, unfortunately we do not hold any data prior to 2015:

| Date | Total |
|-----------------------|-------|
| 22/12/2015-02/01/2016 | 6 |
| 22/12/2016-02/01/2017 | 4 |
| 22/12/2017-02/01/2018 | 2 |

Unfortunately, we are unable to break this down by area as this is not something we routinely record. Please note that a single incident report may contain multiple victims.

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.

2. Please can I request the number of alcohol related ambulance calls that occurred over the festive period (22nd December- 2nd Jan) for the latest figures that are available.

Please see table below showing the number of calls with the following problem natures;

- Alcohol Intoxication

- Alcohol Intoxication/Related
- Alcohol Related

Please note that this only includes incidents where the primary reason for the call is listed as relating to alcohol. Other incidents with different problem natures could involve alcohol also but to determine numbers would exceed the 18-hour limit set out in Section 12.

Please also note that the problem nature is determined by the call taker, and not a diagnosis, what was found when a crew arrived on scene or what the patient was treated for if conveyed to hospital.

| Date Period | Total Calls* |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 22 Dec 2017 and 02 Jan 2018 | 201 |
| 22 Dec 2016 and 02 Jan 2017 | 247 |
| 22 Dec 2015 and 02 Jan 2016 | 278 |
| 22 Dec 2014 and 02 Jan 2015 | 292 |
| 22 Dec 2013 and 02 Jan 2014 | 290 |

*Please note that not all calls receive a response

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