



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

Date 7th August 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/18/07/28.

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

I wish to request information pertaining to the standards/levels of regular training your trust provides for your clinical staff to maintain proficiency in pre-hospital EMS practice.

I specifically wish to know if you provide time to train to maintain competence and if so, what you provide and what allowances you afford them (x amount in hours, regular paid time, unpaid but trust organised, no provision, etc). I'd also like to know what kind of maintenance training you provide for staff (classroom, practical, simulation, etc). This only relates to normal frontline staff, not HART or other specialist groups. I'd also like to know how regular maintenance training is organised, e.g. trust team organises provisions, done at a local/regional level by mentors, etc.

Educational provision for clinical staff takes place in a number of ways, depending on the type of education and the clinical grade of the individual. The following summary provides an overview of these:

Statutory and Mandatory training for all clinical staff: this is delivered through an annual programme of face-to-face delivery and eLearning modules. For the 2018/19 financial year there are eight eLearning modules covering subjects such as Information Governance, Health and Safety, Medicines Management (PGDs), Safeguarding (child and adult), Fire awareness, Infection Prevention and Control, and Major incidents. The face-to-face training is delivered over two 12-hour days which staff are abstracted from shift to attend. Contents of the face-to-face course included: spotting the sick child, mental health, medicines management, Basic / Advanced Life Support, Major Incidents, Recognising the deteriorating patient (including NEWS), ECGs. This is all completed within paid time, and is designed and developed centrally but delivered and managed locally.

Desirable development for staff in specific roles: The trainee Associate Ambulance Practitioner students undertake practice placements in front time operations, interspersed with classroom-based teaching to develop into the role over a 54-week period (as an apprenticeship scheme). Newly Qualified Paramedics undertake a two-year Consolidation of Learning Period ('preceptorship') during which they are supported to complete their development to become an experienced

paramedic. This includes the ability to be abstracted from shift for up to 52.5 hours per year for recognised development activity. Specialist Practitioners undertake 'Skills Assurance Time' training as part of their rotas to support their role.

Career Development: is provided for staff through an application process accordingly to organisation Workforce Planning. This is generally fully funded and undertaken during work hours.

Optional development is available for all staff through an application process where they can identify a specific learning need. Full or partial funding is then provided based on funding availability and organisational need. Generally speaking, staff are expected to undertake this training in their own time.

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 Lead via the following email address:

FOI@secamb.nhs.uk

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Coordinator
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust