



Trust Headquarters  
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West Sussex  
RH10 9BG

Date 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019

Email:

Dear,

Tel: 0300 123 0999  
[www.secamb.nhs.uk](http://www.secamb.nhs.uk)

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/19/10/14.

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

**Abuse against staff**

- **May you please provide the number of reported physical assaults on ambulance staff by members of the public - per year within the following financial years: 2019/18, 2018/17 and 2017/16**

Please see table below:

Year	Total
2018/19	224
2017/18	220
2016/17	234

- **May you please provide the number of reported sexual assaults on ambulance staff by members of the public - per year within the following financial years: 2019/18, 2018/17 and 2017/16**

Please see table below:

Year	Total
2018/19	13
2017/18	20
2016/17	9

- **May you please provide the number of reports of verbal abuse on ambulance staff by members of the public per year within the following financial years: 2019/18, 2018/17 and 2017/16**

Please note the information below covers abuse/aggression/non-physical assault etc, not just verbal abuse:

Year	Total
2018/19	593
2017/18	Not Recorded*
2016/17	Not Recorded*

\*Prior to 2018/19 we did not record data in this way, so we are unable to breakdown the number of incidents to work out exactly how many victims this equated to.

**Sick days resulting from abuse against staff**

- **May you please provide the number of sick days taken by staff - as a direct result of sexual, physical or verbal abuse from members of the public.**
- **May you please provide the figures per year within the following financial years: 2019/18, 2018/17 and 2017/16**
- **i.e in 2018/17, 24 working days were lost due to staff absences resulting from physical attacks against staff from members of the public**

We do not hold this information as there is no sickness reason in this category

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, Head of Information Governance via the following email address:

[FOI@secamb.nhs.uk](mailto:FOI@secamb.nhs.uk)

Yours sincerely

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