



Trust Headquarters
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22nd June 2020

Email:

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI 200509.

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

1. **How much has your Trust spent on private ambulances that attend emergency calls during the financial years 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21 to date?**

Value/s rounded to the nearest £

Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Value	£11,176,428	£10,724,602	£9,210,426	£11,183,997	£1,997,296

2. **For 2019-20 and for 2020-21 specifically – please can you break the data down for each month?**

Value/s rounded to the nearest £

Month	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19
Value	£640,748	£896,829	£804,425	£706,749	£810,989	£833,203

Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20
£1,022,641	£829,020	£983,788	£1,145,053	£877,261	£1,633,292	£985,251	£1,012,046

3. **What percentage of emergency 999 calls required the use of a private ambulance for the financial years listed above?**

2016-17	7.3%
2017-18	11.9%
2018-19	8.6%
2019-20	8.6%

For Q3 please note the following:

- Values provided are from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2020.
- Please note that percentage values provided are calculated values. The denominator has been determined by the total number of incidents with a response. This information is available publicly on the AQI website:
<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/ambulance-quality-indicators/>
- Values provided are for incidents where a private ambulance has arrived at scene.

4. For 2019-20 and 2020-2021 to date – how much did the trust spend on private ambulance providers for non 999 calls?

As an ambulance provider we respond to emergency incidents from patients dialling 999 and 111 and also direct requests from Health Care Professionals (HCPs). We are unable to identify the costs directly attributable to those not received a 999 call and are included in the costs in questions 1 and 2.

The Trust does not provide a Non-Emergency Patient Transport Service (PTS).

5. For 2019-20 and for 2020-21 specifically – please can you please break the data down for each month?

As an ambulance provider we respond to emergency incidents from patients dialling 999 and 111 and also direct requests from Health Care Professionals (HCPs). We are unable to identify the costs directly attributable to those not received a 999 call and are included in the costs in questions 1 and 2.

The Trust does not provide a Non-Emergency Patient Transport Service (PTS).

6. **For 2020-2021 to date – how much has been spent on private provider to assist with moving or treating COVID19 patients?**

£803,709 - The cost of additional shifts / agency or bank staff to cover higher sickness absence as a result of COVID-19.

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

Yours sincerely

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