



Freedom of Information Request

31st August 2017

Question

Could you provide the number of times ambulances have been single crewed in 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17?

Answer

The table shows the number of times ambulances have been single crewed since 2013. We did not record this information before 2013.

Year	Number of times an ambulance has been single crewed
2013/14	1,644
2014/15	2,667
2015/16	3,514
2016/17	2,204

The Scottish Ambulance Service does not routinely roster staff to be on their own in a double crewed vehicle. Every effort is made to double crew all shifts, however there will be occasions when some shifts will be single crewed due to short notice, unplanned staff absence where additional staffing cannot be arranged. This is exceptional and represents a very small proportion of the number of shifts double crewed each year.

A single crew will be sent to an incident if they are the closest resource to provide a patient with immediate care, but they will always be backed up by a double crew.