



# Freedom of Information Request

**28 November 2022**

## Question

### Sick leave (general)

1. The **number of paramedics** that took sick leave in a) 2013 b) 2014 c) 2015 d) 2016 e) 2017 f) 2018 g) 2019 h) 2020 i) 2021 j) 2022 broken down by *each* division for *each* of these calendar years. By division I mean a) North b) East Central c) South East d) West Central and e) South West
2. The **number of hours** that paramedics took in sick leave a) 2013 b) 2014 c) 2015 d) 2016 e) 2017 f) 2018 g) 2019 h) 2020 i) 2021 j) 2022 broken down by *each* division for *each* of these calendar years. By division I mean a) North b) East Central c) South East d) West Central and e) South West

### Sick leave with anxiety/stress/depression

1. The **number of paramedics** that took sick leave in a) 2013 b) 2014 c) 2015 d) 2016 e) 2017 f) 2018 g) 2019 h) 2020 i) 2021 j) 2022 broken down by *each* division for *each* of these calendar years. By division I mean a) North b) East Central c) South East d) West Central and e) South West
2. The **number of hours** that paramedics took in sick leave a) 2013 b) 2014 c) 2015 d) 2016 e) 2017 f) 2018 g) 2019 h) 2020 i) 2021 j) 2022 broken down by *each* division for *each* of these calendar years. By division I mean a) North b) East Central c) South East d) West Central and e) South West

## Answer

Please find below a table containing the data the Scottish Ambulance Service can provide. Table shows the number of hours lost each calendar year between 01/01/2017 – 31/10/2022 to sickness absence for Paramedics.

Data is provided as hours lost because of the nature of our shift patterns, meaning that the length of a single working day varies and is not equivalent to a standard working pattern

We take the mental health of our staff very seriously, which is why we have developed a robust programme to support them. Managers work closely with staff to encourage them to report any concerns about their welfare and we aid and fund for staff seeking professional counselling services and occupational health services.

The Scottish Ambulance service has and continuously reviews a varied range of support tools aimed at staff in relation to Mental Health – related illnesses. If you would like more information on the services, we provide please do not hesitate to get in touch and this can be provided.

## Sickness Absence Rates, 01/01/2017-31/10/2022

			2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total Absence	East Central	Absence Hours	80,585	95,883	104,221	103,686	131,848	113,177
		Contracted Hours	1,244,694	1,330,905	1,337,832	1,292,354	1,456,701	1,271,687
		Absence Rate	6.5%	7.2%	7.8%	8.0%	9.1%	8.9%
	North	Absence Hours	68,353	80,892	89,777	64,974	85,589	83,656
		Contracted Hours	1,274,169	1,315,229	1,322,099	1,267,287	1,450,463	1,281,090
		Absence Rate	5.4%	6.2%	6.8%	5.1%	5.9%	6.5%
	South East	Absence Hours	78,008	81,903	96,384	66,554	91,458	74,094
		Contracted Hours	1,016,764	1,013,734	976,888	924,939	1,117,393	1,006,007
		Absence Rate	7.7%	8.1%	9.9%	7.2%	8.2%	7.4%
South West	Absence Hours	113,115	118,197	139,257	111,433	125,049	127,016	
	Contracted Hours	1,506,039	1,528,484	1,481,168	1,432,406	1,562,732	1,346,802	
	Absence Rate	7.5%	7.7%	9.4%	7.8%	8.0%	9.4%	
West Central	Absence Hours	160,798	165,134	163,436	139,789	168,847	153,799	
	Contracted Hours	1,715,333	1,719,740	1,670,846	1,673,990	1,989,211	1,728,760	
	Absence Rate	9.4%	9.6%	9.8%	8.4%	8.5%	8.9%	
			2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Anxiety/Stress/Depression	East Central	Absence Hours	12,907	19,370	27,089	33,889	47,432	35,906
		Contracted Hours	1,244,694	1,330,905	1,337,832	1,292,354	1,456,701	1,271,687
		Absence Rate	1.0%	1.5%	2.0%	2.6%	3.3%	2.8%
	North	Absence Hours	7,471	13,931	20,104	13,460	17,822	17,763
		Contracted Hours	1,274,169	1,315,229	1,322,099	1,267,287	1,450,463	1,281,090
		Absence Rate	0.6%	1.1%	1.5%	1.1%	1.2%	1.4%
	South East	Absence Hours	13,831	19,589	28,851	22,733	31,285	22,798
		Contracted Hours	1,016,764	1,013,734	976,888	924,939	1,117,393	1,006,007
		Absence Rate	1.4%	1.9%	3.0%	2.5%	2.8%	2.3%
	South West	Absence Hours	19,087	23,504	30,404	31,137	37,979	42,883
		Contracted Hours	1,506,039	1,528,484	1,481,168	1,432,406	1,562,732	1,346,802
		Absence Rate	1.3%	1.5%	2.1%	2.2%	2.4%	3.2%
	West Central	Absence Hours	25,180	34,934	39,698	39,213	40,951	33,732
		Contracted Hours	1,715,333	1,719,740	1,670,846	1,673,990	1,989,211	1,728,760
		Absence Rate	1.5%	2.0%	2.4%	2.3%	2.1%	2.0%