



Freedom of Information Request

16th September 2024

Question

How many times in the last 12 months have there been single crewed ambulances on shift from Forth valley area?

Answer

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 shifts, however there are occasions when some shifts will be single-crewed due to short notice, unplanned staff absence where additional staffing cannot be arranged.

It is important to note that on these call-outs single crew staff members are tasked appropriately and backed up as necessary. In addition the single crew figures include Paramedic Response Units which are routinely single crewed vehicles. Paramedics on PRUs have appropriate levels of skill to deal with many incidents, particularly 'see and treat' patients who do not require transportation to hospital. Back up is available for PRUs on request, or on certain occasions automatically provided.

Please see the table below detailing the number of single crewed shifts covered in the last 12 months. It is important to note this is provided for ALL of the East Central sub-division; this information is not reportable at a health board level.

Month	No of Shifts
Aug-24	66
Jul-24	61
Jun-24	64
May-24	48
Apr-24	60
Mar-24	60
Feb-24	58
Jan-24	58
Dec-23	75
Nov-23	38
Oct-23	61
Sep-23	62