

**Response from South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SECAMB)**

The maternity related activity undertaken by SECAMB to Eastbourne DGH from April 2012 to 11 March 2013 amounts to the following:

Total activity	84
Minimum per week	1
Maximum per week	5
Average per week	2

Responses to specific questions raised by HOSC:

- 1. *Whether the proposal and its impact has been discussed with SECAMB:***  
The Trust has been involved in discussions with ESHT and the wider East Sussex NHS system regarding the proposal to undertake this interim service change to centralise this service based on patient safety and clinical grounds.
- 2. *What the anticipated impact on SECAMB will be:***  
The information highlighted above indicates the total number of cases in the current year to date and the minimum, maximum and average cases per week based the activity undertaken in the year to date.
- 3. *Whether SECAMB is able to manage this impact, or what needs to be in place to be able to manage it:***  
We feel that we will be able to support this interim arrangement to support patient safety.
- 4. *Any issues or concerns which need to be addressed before the temporary reconfiguration goes live:***  
Our emergency dispatch centre staff utilise the NHSP triage system that permits safe and effective triage of maternity calls so that we can respond in an appropriate time to emergency maternity calls to our 999 service. From 19<sup>th</sup> March 2013 any patients calling our new 111 service will also be triaged via the same NHSP triage system and managed effectively to meet their clinical need. Our crews are trained in the delivery of normal maternity cases and we will be following up with our crews locally on a designated learning package on the management of complications of labour and the newborn.

Geraint Davies  
Director of Commercial Services  
15.03.13