

**Reference Number:** FOI202324/323  
**From:** Commercial  
**Date:** 15 October 2023  
**Subject:** Private Ambulance Service

Q1 Would you be able to provide details that relate to the third-party/private ambulance company you use to undertake emergency transfers or retrievals.

A1 [Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital NHS Foundation Trust use a private ambulance company called Sparks Medical.](#)

Q2 With this, can you explain:  
a. the nature of the service provided  
b. name of service this is funded for/by  
c. timescales of contract length.

A2 [a. Paramedic and ACA ambulance crews used to facilitate emergency and urgent transfers from other hospitals for treatment at Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital. When service not used for emergency transfer the ambulances are utilised to take discharges to other hospitals or in some cases their home or nursing home.  
b. Funded by Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital.  
c. Contract implemented in October 2019 to relieve winter pressures. The contract is due to expire in April 2024.](#)