

**Information Governance**

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Reference no.18190480

Dear

**Request for Information: Freedom of Information Act**

Thank you for your email of 19<sup>th</sup> March making a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. You requested the following information and the Trust is able to provide the information below in response:

**Request:**

I am sending a Freedom of Information Request to your trust about the numbers of assaults on NHS staff. Please answer the following questions in order, until the time or cost limit has been reached:

1. If your trust runs one or more A&E departments, could you please provide the total number of physical assaults on staff for each of the following time periods: 2018-2019 (or up until the most recent month), 2017-2018, 2016-2017, 2015-2016 and 2014-2015. Please release any readily available data-sets for these time periods.
2. If your trust runs one or more A&E departments, could you please provide the total number of non-physical assaults on staff for each of the following time periods: 2018-2019 (or up until the most recent month), 2017-2018, 2016-2017, 2015-2016 and 2014-2015. Please release any readily available data-sets.
3. If available, please provide a breakdown of the data **for your whole trust**, for the total number of physical assaults on staff by their profession (see below) for the following time periods: 2018-2019 (or until the most recent month available), 2017-2018, 2016-2017, 2015-2016 and 2014-2015. Please release any readily available data-sets.
4. If recorded, please provide a breakdown of the data **for your whole trust**, of the total number of physical assaults on staff by aggravating factors (see below) for the following time periods: 2018-2019 (or until the most recent month available), 2017-2018, 2016-2017, 2015-2016 and 2014-2015. Please release any readily available data-sets.

5. Could you please provide the amount of money spent on private security guards for each of the following years: 2018-2019 (or until the most recent month available), 2017-2018, 2016-2017, 2015-2016 and 2014-2015. Please release any readily available data-sets.

Could you also provide the amount of money total money spent on security measures (including but not exclusive to body cameras, CCTV, re-designing clinical environments, security staff, campaigns) for each of the following years: 2017-2018, (or until the most recent month available), 2017-2018, 2016-2017, 2015-2016 and 2014-2015.

Definitions and criteria for questions 1-4

**Physical assault** is the intentional application of force against the person without lawful justification resulting in physical injury or personal discomfort. For the purposes of this FOI spitting is included in this definition.

**Non-physical assault** is the use of inappropriate words or behaviour causing distress and/or constituting harassment. Non-physical assault includes the following (but is not exclusive to) offensive or obscene language; verbal abuse and swearing; brandishing weapons, or objects which could be used as weapons; attempted assaults; offensive gestures; threats; intimidation; harassment or stalking; damage to buildings equipment or vehicles which causes fear for personal safety; offensive language or behaviour related to a person's, race, gender, nationality, religion, disability, age or sexual orientation; inappropriate sexual language or behaviour.

**Professions** include (but are not exclusive to) the following: nurses (including student nurses), doctors (including student doctors), security staff, healthcare assistants, paramedics, midwives, health visitors and porters.

**Aggravating factors** can include (but is not is not exclusive to) the following: racial, sexual, sexual harassment, homophobia, ableism, ageism, hate crime, and mental illness or condition.

Please include any information already previously released or if this information is in the public domain in your responses, or provide page references and URLs to this information.

Response:

1 & 2: the Trust does not provide A&E services.

3. We are unable to accurately provide information by staff profession. However we have provided information below on physical assaults on staff by patients, public and other staff. To note the Trust provides services across 5 counties, including mental health services for children, adults and older people including specialist services for inpatient/ community eating disorders, inpatient children and adolescents and inpatient/ community forensic patients. We also started to provide learning disability services in Oxfordshire from July 2017 and have provided community services in Oxfordshire for the whole time period requested.

2014/15 = 944

2015/16 = 1013

2016/17 = 964

2017/18 = 882

2018/19 = 865

4. The Trust do not collect or report on aggravating factor so cannot provide this information.

5. the Trust does not employ or contract any private security services. The Trust is unable to report on other financial commitments related to security as the information is not recorded in a reportable form.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to me and I will ensure the decision is reviewed. The Trust will consider undertaking a review if requested to do so within 40 working days of the date the response is received by the applicant, and will apply discretion if a longer period of time has passed.

Should you wish to make a complaint as a result of the outcome of such a review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision.

Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Trust for Fol Act matters.

The ICO can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF

Please contact me if there are any further queries.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Mark Underwood

Head of Information Governance