

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 22-743

18 January 2023

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

- We can confirm that we do hold the information you are requesting

**Please can you provide me with the following information for the (calendar) years:
i)2017 ii) 2018 iii) 2019 iv) 2020 v) 2021 vi) 2022**

***If possible, can an age or age range be provided for each?**

1) The number of persons who visited A&E in your NHS Trust (University Hospitals Bristol and Weston) for injuries caused by dog bites or attacks?

	Age range					
Year	0-16	17-30	31-45	46-60	60+	Grand Total
2017	65	70	73	38	23	269
2018	80	72	61	58	25	296
2019	109	69	60	54	22	314
2020	108	55	58	50	25	296
2021	137	63	65	40	9	314
2022	98	63	54	51	19	285
Grand Total	597	392	371	291	123	1774

2) How many persons required inpatient treatment for injuries caused by dog bites or attacks?

	Age Range				
Year	0-16	17-30	31-45	46-60	60+
2017	12	*	*	*	*
2018	19	*	*	*	6
2019	13	*	*	*	*
2020	14	*	*	*	*
2021	19	*		*	*
2022	10	*	*	6	*

Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by *. Due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. (Section 40 is the exemption for personal information).

3) How many persons required surgery for injuries caused by dog bites or attacks?

We do hold this information; however, please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

4) How many persons suffered fatal injuries caused by dog bites or attacks?

We do hold this information; however, please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Data Protection Officer
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be

contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust