

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 23-259

14 April 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 hold some of the information you are requesting

1. The total number of physical assaults on staff recorded in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31)

2021-22: 432

2022-23: 436

2. The total number of physical assaults on staff recorded that involved medical factors in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31)

This is not recorded.

3. The total number of times physical injury to staff was recorded following physical assaults in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31). If possible, please break down the number of injuries reported by severe/major, moderate, and low/minor.

2021/2022: 157

2022/2023: 163

4. The total number of times restraint was used on a service user/patient following a physical assault on staff in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31).

2021-22: 128

2022-23: 101

5. The total number of times was seclusion used on a service user/patient following a physical assault on staff in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31).

Seclusion is not used in the Trust.

6. Total number of criminal sanctions applied in relation to physical assaults on staff in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31).

The Police and Courts do not always inform the Trust of all outcomes following a person being arrested following an assault of a NHS staff member.

7. Total number of civil and administrative sanctions applied in relation to physical assaults on staff in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31).

Administrative sanctions can be placed on the individual by Divisions and Departments which may not always be centrally collated.

8. The total number of times intended police action in relation to physical assaults on staff was recorded as charge in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31)

The Police are only accountable to the victim of a crime and not the Trust. Therefore, the Trust does not always get notified of all outcomes.

9. The total number of times intended police action in relation to physical assaults on staff was recorded as verbal warning in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31)

The Police are only accountable to the victim of a crime and not the Trust. Therefore, the Trust does not always get notified of all outcomes

10. The total number of times intended police action in relation to physical assaults on staff was recorded as no action in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31)

The Police are only accountable to the victim of a crime and not the Trust. Therefore, the Trust does not always get notified of all outcomes

11. The total number of times it was recorded that the victim did not want police to pursue the matter in relation to physical assaults on staff in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31)

The Police are only accountable to the victim of a crime and not the Trust. Therefore, the Trust does not always get notified of all outcomes

Please see the notes section for background information on the requested information.

Notes:

- **Assaults involving medical factors** - the number of physical assaults where the perpetrator did not know what they were doing, or did not know what they were doing was wrong due to medical illness, mental ill health, severe learning disability or treatment administered, if noted.
- **Restraint used** - If in the course of a physical assault incident, the service user/patient had to be restrained - see:

<http://www.southernhealth.nhs.uk/EasySiteWeb/GatewayLink.aspx?alld=4203>

- **Seclusion used** - If in the course of a physical assault incident, seclusion was used for the service user/patient - see:

<http://www.southernhealth.nhs.uk/EasySiteWeb/GatewayLink.aspx?alld=42033>

- **Reported Criminal Sanctions** include but are not limited to: Cautions & Conditional Cautions, Community Rehabilitation or Punishment Orders, Conditional Discharges, Fines, Fixed Penalty Notices, Imprisonment (including suspended sentences) and Restorative Justice - as per <https://www.eastamb.nhs.uk/Governance/disclosure-log/Health%20and%20Safety/FOI%20-%2014405%20Reported%20Physical%20Assaults%202015-16.pdf>

<https://www.eastamb.nhs.uk/Governance/disclosure-log/Health%20and%20Safety/FOI%20-%2014405%20Reported%20Physical%20Assaults%202015-16.pdf>

- **Reported Civil and Administrative Sanctions** include but are not limited to: Acceptable Behaviour Agreements, Banning from Premises, Harassment Warning Issued, Injunction, Use of CJIA Powers, Violent Patient Scheme/History Marking Procedure and Warning Letters - as per <https://www.eastamb.nhs.uk/Governance/disclosure-log/Health%20and%20Safety/FOI%20-%2014405%20Reported%20Physical%20Assaults%202015-16.pdf>

<https://www.eastamb.nhs.uk/Governance/disclosure-log/Health%20and%20Safety/FOI%20-%2014405%20Reported%20Physical%20Assaults%202015-16.pdf>

- **Suppression of small numbers** - Previous ICO decision notices where a complaint was upheld in relation to **Section 40: Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Barts Health NHS Trust**

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