

Ref no: 142190319
From: Public
Date: 19/03/19
Subject: NHS staff assaults

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**, the total number of physical assaults on staff **across the trust** 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

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act St Helens & Knowsley Teaching Hospitals Trust does not have to comply with a request if we estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £450. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 2½ working days in answering the remainder of your questions. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.