

## Freedom of Information Act Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

I am writing with a request under the Freedom of Information Act. Specifically, I would like to ask the following:

1. I) In the financial years 2022/23, 23/24, and 24/25 (Up to 08.01.25), how many members of clinical staff were physically assaulted by members of the public? Please provide a breakdown by role if it is possible and doesn't exceed the cost threshold, e.g doctors, nurses, physicians, paramedics.

Date	Data
2022/2023	19
2023/2024	28
2024/2025	34

**We are unable to provide the breakdown by role, as the cost of compliance would exceed the appropriate limit set out in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.**

**To identify and extract the requested data, each case would need to be individually reviewed to determine the staff group involved. Given the number of incidents recorded, this process would require a significant amount of time and resources, exceeding the cost threshold of £450 (equivalent to 18 hours of staff time, as prescribed by the FOI Act).**

II) Of those clinical staff who were assaulted, how many required hospital treatment as a result of their injuries? Please provide a breakdown by role, if it is possible and doesn't exceed the cost threshold, for the same financial years..

**After careful consideration, we regret to inform you that we do not hold the information you have requested.**

**Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we are only required to provide information that we hold at the time of the request. Unfortunately, we do not possess the information you are seeking.**

III) How many days of medical leave were granted to members of clinical staff owing to injuries sustained after an assault by a member of the public? Please provide a breakdown by role, if it is possible and doesn't exceed the cost threshold, for the same financial years.

**Following a search of our records, we can confirm that we do not hold the specific level of detail required to determine the number of medical leave days taken as a direct result of assaults by members of the public. While we do record staff absences due to injury, our systems do not allow us to attribute these absences specifically to assaults.**

**Under Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, a public authority is only required to provide information that it holds. As such, we are unable to provide the requested breakdown.**

**However, we can provide data on staff absences recorded as injury if this would be of interest. Please let us know if you would like us to proceed with this alternative information.**

**Under Section 16 of the FOI Act, we have a duty to provide advice and assistance where possible. To help bring your request within the cost limit, you may wish to consider refining its scope to one of the below and we may be able to help**

- The total number of absences recorded as injury for clinical staff.
- A breakdown by role, if available and within the cost threshold.
- Any related policies or reporting processes regarding staff injuries and assaults.

2. I) In the financial years 2022/23, 23/24, and 24/25 (Up to 08.01.25), how many members of non-clinical staff were physically assaulted by members of the public?

**All cases would need to be reviewed to establish the roles. We are unable to provide the breakdown by role, as the cost of compliance would exceed the appropriate limit set out in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.**

**To identify and extract the requested data, each case would need to be individually reviewed to determine the staff group involved. Given the number of incidents recorded, this process would require a significant amount of time and resources, exceeding the cost threshold of £450 (equivalent to 18 hours of staff time, as prescribed by the FOI Act).**

II) Of those who were assaulted, how many required hospital treatment as a result of their injuries?

III) How many days of medical leave were granted to members of non-clinical staff owing to injuries sustained after an assault by a member of the public?

**Following a search of our records, we can confirm that we do not hold the specific level of detail required to determine the number of medical leave days taken as a direct result of assaults by members of the public. While we do record staff absences due to injury, our systems do not allow us to attribute these absences specifically to assaults.**

**Under Section 16 of the FOI Act, we have a duty to provide advice and assistance where possible. To help bring your request within the cost limit, you may wish to consider refining its scope to one of the below and we may be able to help**

- **The total number of absences recorded as injury for clinical staff.**
- **A breakdown by role, if available and within the cost threshold.**
- **Any related policies or reporting processes regarding staff injuries and assaults.**

If you are not satisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Requests for an internal review should be submitted within 40 working days from the date of this response, and should be addressed to d.wraith@nhs.net.

If you remain dissatisfied after the internal review, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
Tel: 0303 123 1113  
Website: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>