

Date: Thursday, 11th November 2021
Our Ref: MB/SH FOI 4933

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Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 4933

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 29th October 2021.

Your request was as follows:

Please can I have the information from 1st January 2019 to 28th October 2021 (or the most recent incident). I ask for the information to be broken down into years (2019, 2020, 2021).

1. The total number of physical assaults against NHS staff from members of the public and patients that occurred during 2019, 2020 and 2021.

2019 - 131

2020 - 185

2021 (to 28th Oct) - 116

2. The total number of verbal assaults against NHS staff from members of the public and patients that occurred during 2019, 2020 and 2021.

2019 - 91

2020 - 69

2021 (to 28th Oct) - 78

3. Can you provide any more detail surrounding the nature of these incidents?

I confirm that The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust holds the information you have requested. However, I am unable to provide you with that information as I consider that the following exemptions apply to it:

Section 40 (2) - Third Party Data

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). In answering your query may lead to the undue stress of staff and patients as this information would lead to staff and patients being identified. Therefore this information has not been released for reasons of confidentiality.

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test. This response therefore acts as a refusal notice under section 17 of the FOIA.

Please see our response above in [blue](#).

Re-Use of Public Sector Information

All information supplied by the Trust in answering a request for information (RFI) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be subject to the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005, Statutory Instrument 2005 No. 1515 which came into effect on 1st July 2005.

Under the terms of the Regulations, the Trust will licence the re-use of any or all information supplied if being

used in a form and for the purpose other than which it was originally supplied. This license for re-use will be in line with the requirements of the Regulations and the licensing terms and fees as laid down by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI). Most licenses will be free; however the Trust reserves the right, in certain circumstances, to charge a fee for the re-use of some information which it deems to be of commercial value.

Further information can be found at www.opsi.gov.uk where a sample license terms and fees can be found with guidance on copyright and publishing notes and a Guide to Best Practice and regulated advice and case studies, at www.opsi.gov.uk/advice/psi-regulations/index.htm

If 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 the Freedom of Information Office at the address above.

Please remember to quote the reference number, FOI 4933 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 Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Mike Burns

Mr. Mike Burns, Executive Lead for Freedom of Information