

01 July 2019

Information Rights & Compliance Team
99 Waverley Road
St Albans
Hertfordshire
AL3 5TL

Tel: 01727 804954
Email: Hpft.foi@nhs.net

Our Ref: FOI/03249

Thank you for your request concerning physical assaults on staff.

Your request has been considered and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

Question 1 and 2 are not applicable to our Trust.

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.**

Unfortunately we are unable to provide you with breakdown by profession as this is not identified on our Patient Safety recording system. To supply the information requested would involve reviewing each incident record and to carry out this task would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450¹.

Under section 12 of the FOIA a public authority does not have to comply with a request for information if the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit. It is estimated that it would take approximately 5 minutes to manually review each of the above 4,540 incidents to extract the information, i.e. 378 hours @ £25ph = £9,458.

However, to be helpful we have provided you with the overall numbers.

	Total number of Physical Assaults on Staff
2014/15	786
2015/16	959
2016/17	1031
2017/18	863
2018/19	901
The above numbers have been obtained from our Patient Safety recording system. The data has not been scrutinised for accuracy.	

To provide you with an accurate data set would involve a high level of data validation and to carry out this task would again exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450 .

¹ Section 12 - Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit has been applied

4. **If recorded, please provide a breakdown of the data for your whole trust, of the total number of physical assaults on staff 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.**

Please see explanation under question 3 regarding the breakdown of information.

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.**

Our site security guard services are supplied by Interserve in a Total Facilities Management contract. We are unable to breakdown the cost of private security guards as the cost is as a whole for all services supplied under the contract.

6. **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.**

Please see explanation under question 5; we are unable to provide the request breakdown. However, under Section 16 – Duty to provide advice and assistance, please see our overall security spend

Spend on Security	£k
14/15	531
15/16	601
16/17	599
17/18	672

Should you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please find enclosed an information sheet regarding copyright protection and the Trust's complaints procedure in the event that you are not satisfied with the response.

Yours sincerely

Sue Smith

**Sue Smith
Information Rights Officer**

Enc: Copyright Protection and Complaints Procedure Information Leaflet.

If you would like to complete a short survey in relation to your Freedom of Information request please scan the QR code below or click [here](#).

