

11 December 2019

Information Rights & Compliance Team  
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Our Ref: FOI/03494

Thank you for your request concerning violence towards staff.

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

**1. How many patients in mental health wards were violent towards staff members in the past five calendar years (2014-2019)?**

Please provide a breakdown of:

- Each calendar year
- Gender (male or female)
- Age bracket (over 65, 18-64, under 18)

Last 5 Calendar Year	Number of Incidents of Violence Service User to Staff Actual Assaults (MH Acute, PICU, MHSOP, Forensic, CAMHS)
<b>2014</b>	<b>322</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>283</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>264</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>363</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>351</b>

Between 2014 and 2018 there were 1,583 reported incidents of a violent nature.

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<sup>1</sup>.

For us to provide the breakdown into gender and age would involve us manually scrutinising each of the 1,583 incident reports. To carry out this task would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450 as it is estimated that it would take 5 minutes to extract the data i.e. 131.91 hours @ £25 = £3,297.91.

Should you require further clarification or like to discuss payment, please do not hesitate to contact me.

<sup>1</sup> Section 12 - Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit has been applied

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](#).

