



Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

Suite 9
Buckingham Row
Brick Kiln Lane
Wigan
WN1 1XX

Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk

Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2024/10422

Date Received: 14th January 2025

Response Due: 11th February 2025

Date: 11th February 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 14th January 2025, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold part of the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

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.

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 *up to 08/01/25
Nurse	<5	<5	0
Doctor	0	0	0
Physician	0	0	0
Paramedics	0	0	0

The Trust has a standard procedure of not releasing information when the data involved is less than 5. This is because we feel that such low numbers could make the individuals involved identifiable and therefore may cause undue harm and distress.

To disclose this information would:

- a) Contravene the Data Protection Act principles in that it would amount to unfair and possibly unlawful processing, as there was a legitimate expectation by the third parties that this information would remain confidential, and
- b) Disclosure may cause damage or distress to the individual(s) involved, and that damage or distress would be unwarranted (section 10 of the DPA).

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.

The Trusts incident reporting system does not hold information regarding clinical staff hospital treatment.

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.

Sickness absence linked to an assault by a member of the public is not recorded centrally. Each assault case would need to be interrogated in order to provide a response to this request.

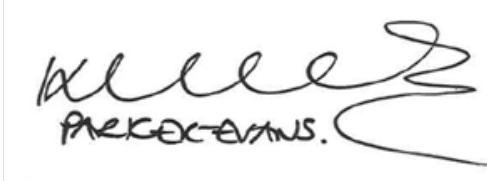
2. I) In the financial years 2022/23, 23/24, and 24/25 (Up to 08.01.25), how many members of non-clinical staff were physically assaulted by members of the public?
0.

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

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?
N/A.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Parker-Evans', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Kevin Parker-Evans MBA, FCMI, CMgr. RN Dip HE
Chief Nursing Officer & Director of Infection Prevention and Control

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111