

FOI REF: 21/016

3rd February 2021

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

Please could you provide me the number of incidents of assault or abuse on hospital staff for the calendar years 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017 and 2016?

Please see the table below for the number of assaults and abuse on East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust's hospital staff for the calendar years requested, broken down by physical assault and verbal abuse:

Year	Physical Assault	Verbal Abuse	Total
2016	162	183	345
2017	212	156	368
2018	135	115	250
2019	224	199	423
2020	255	131	386

Could you please specify whether the abuse was physical or verbal?

Please see the table above.

How many times were police called out in the years stated above to deal with an assault on hospital staff?

We do not hold this information. Please contact Sussex Police who may hold this information, using the link below:

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/rqo/request/ri/request-information/rip/request-information-police/request-information-about-police/FOI-request-form/>

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, please write to Lynette Wells, Director of Corporate Affairs, East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (lynette.wells2@nhs.net) quoting the above reference.

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
Corporate Governance Manager
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