

FOI REF: 21/562

22nd November 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:

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

2019	184
2020	207
2021 to 31 st October 2021	203

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	160
2020	160
2021 to 31 st October 2021	147

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

Of the total 594 physical assaults the primary factors stated were;

- 219 Clinically related including mental health, dementia and treatment induced for example; post anaesthesia.
- 54 substance misuse including alcohol or drugs.
- 27 anger or frustration.
- 3 discrimination or harassment.
- 291 incidents in which a factor was stated to be either 'none' or was not reported.

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 the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference.

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
Corporate Governance Manager
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