



FOI REF: 23/035

1st January 2023

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 can you tell me how many sexual abuse incidents and rapes (separately if you measure these separately, combined if you do not) have been recorded within your trust in the years: 2017/8, 2018/19, 2020/21, 2021/22, and 2022/23 so far.

2017/18	11
2018/19	15
2019/20	16
2020/21	11
2021/22	21
2022/23	9 (to the 16/01/2023)

If possible, could you also inform me of what the trust's response was to each of these incidents.

[Please see the attached.](#)

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, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

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Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

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

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
Corporate Governance Manager
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net

FOI/2023/035 Sexual Abuse

	Date	Incident type	Response
1	05/06/2017	patient with lack of capacity sexually touched staff member	Ward matron investigated incident, staff reassured, no further issues.
2	13/07/2017	Patient sexually inappropriate behaviour to staff member -	Ward matron investigated incident; staff reassured no further issues. neuro/psychiatric elements of patient's clinical condition taken into account
3	21/07/2017	Patient sexually touched member of staff	Staff member offered support and patient informed behaviour is inappropriate
4	01/08/2017	Patient sexually harassing staff	Patient spoken to about inappropriate behaviour – warning put on system
5	07/10/2017	Patient sexually touched member of staff	Ward matron investigated incident. Patient lacked capacity. Incident discussed in ward meeting and staff reassured.
6	28/10/2017	Patient sexually touched member of staff	Ward matron spoke with patient and family. Staff member reassured. Patient suffering from delirium and confusion. No further incidents.
7	11/02/2018	Patient sexually inappropriate behaviour to member of staff	Incident investigated – patient's condition was reason for incident. Staff member reassured.
8	11/02/2018	Patient sexually touched and directed inappropriate sexual behaviour towards a member of staff	Staff member did not want to take this further. Occupational health referral offered. Warning put on system.
9	12/03/2018	Locum staff member was inappropriate to another staff member.	Locum removed from site and requested not to work at ESHT
10	22/03/2018	Staff member was sexually inappropriate to another staff member	Ward Matron addressed issue at time and was passed to the department to investigate
11	27/03/2018	Patient was sexually touched and sexually inappropriate to staff member	Investigation conducted – possible medication as a cause – checked was ok. Patient experienced loss of relative. Staff member reassured and no further action
12	11/06/2018	Patient sexually assaulted another patient (kiss)	Patient (victim) was supported and recommended to contact police/PALS. Patient (suspect) was discharged.

13	22/06/2018	Patient sexually touched member of staff	Incident dealt with at the time by Doctor. Patient then stopped – no further incidents
14	08/07/2018	Patient sexually touched member of staff and acted inappropriately	Head of Nursing informed. Patient spoken to and security put in place to reassure staff.
15	12/07/2018	Patient sexually touched a member of staff	Head of Nursing informed. Patient spoken to and security put in place to reassure staff.
16	12/07/2018	Patient sexually touched a member of staff	Head of Nursing informed. Patient spoken to and security put in place to reassure staff.
17	22/07/2018	Patient reported that another patient was acting sexually inappropriately and was masturbating	Staff manager the incident at the time and ensured curtains were such. Patient was then moved to a side room.
18	24/07/2018	Staff member harassed and inappropriate to another staff member	HR and Head of Nursing spoke to staff member about behaviour. Staff member apologised.
19	17/08/2018	Patient seen to be acting sexually inappropriately and was masturbating in front of staff member	Staff member reassured by management. Patient suffering with dementia
20	02/09/2018	Patient acting sexually inappropriately and was masturbating	Police called and patient arrested. Investigated internally.
21	12/09/2018	Student staff member reported they were sexually touched by another staff member who was also acting sexually inappropriately.	Incident investigated internally. Support given to student staff member.
22	30/11/2018	Patient was sexually inappropriate and made malicious allegation against doctor of sexual assault.	Witnesses stated no concerns regarding doctor.
23	11/12/2018	Staff member sexually touched by relative of patient	Incident investigated and escalated appropriately. Safeguarding plan put in place and staff members reassured.
24	13/03/2019	Friends of patient were sexually inappropriate to staff member	Incident investigated and plan put in place to prevent further incidents. Staff member reassured.
25	15/03/2019	Staff member sexually assaulted my patient	Staff member reassured by management. Patient suffering with dementia
26	18/03/2019	Staff member sexually assaulted my patient	Staff member reassured by management. Patient suffering with dementia
27	02/04/2019	Patient exposed themselves to staff member	Zero tolerance letter sent to patient. Incident investigated and staff member reassured.

28	14/05/2019	Staff member was sexually inappropriate to another staff member	This was investigated by HR formally. Support was offered to staff member concerned.
29	29/06/2019	Staff member sexually assaulted by patient	Investigated by ward. Patient (suspect) was discharged next day. Staff member supported. Service contract for inpatient care completed
30	20/08/2019	Staff member experienced sexually inappropriate behaviour from patient	Trust procedures were followed, and awareness raised to all potentially involved teams, Police and ASC
31	23/08/2019	Allegation of sexual assault by staff member on patient	Safeguarding investigation completed and no case to answer. Police investigation completed also, no case to answer.
32	04/10/2019	Patient made sexually inappropriate comments to another patient	Appropriate action taken at time of incident. safeguarding investigation not commenced as patient does not fulfil criteria. Patient advised to call Police and PALS
33	16/10/2019	Staff member sexually touched inappropriately by patient	Incident investigated and alert put on system. Plan put in place for future visits.
34	04/11/2019	Patient sexually inappropriate to staff and other patients	Patient with capacity issues. Security to support with patient.
35	13/11/2019	Staff member was sexually inappropriate to another staff member	This was investigated by HR formally. Support was offered to staff member concerned.
36	15/11/2019	Staff member received sexually inappropriate phone call.	Incident investigated. Consideration given to blocking number.
37	14/12/2019	Patient sexually harassed member of staff.	Incident investigated appropriate care plan put in place and staff member reassured.
38	28/12/2019	Patient was sexually inappropriate – flashing – members of staff	Patient with capacity issues. Managed correctly and staff members reassured.
39	21/01/2020	Patient displayed sexualised behaviour towards member of staff	Staff member reassured and social services informed.
40	19/02/2020	Alleged sexual assault reported	Safeguarding investigated and referral made
41	21/02/2020	Staff member sexually assaulted by another staff member	Staff member decided to pursue an informal investigation. Professional Leads, Team Leads and HR informed.
42	04/03/2020	Partner of patient sexually touched a member of staff.	Police investigated incident. Staff member concerned well supported and other staff including community staff warned of risk.
43	06/06/2020	Patient was sexually inappropriate to staff	Incident dealt with at time by staff in the department. No further follow up.

44	06/06/2020	Patient was sexually inappropriate to staff	Incident dealt with at time by staff in the department and security. Patient was intoxicated. No further follow up.
45	18/06/2020	Patient acting sexually inappropriately and was masturbating	Patient has cognitive impairment currently due to alcohol withdrawal. Staff member reassured.
46	07/08/2020	Patient was sexually inappropriate to staff	Patient with capacity issues. Staff member debriefed and supported.
47	24/09/2020	Staff member sexually assaulted by patient	Ward Matron discussed strongly with patient the inappropriate behaviour and consequences of ongoing behaviours. Relative made aware. Staff affected were supported
48	07/10/2020	Staff member sexually assaulted by patient	Incident investigated appropriate care plan put in place and staff member reassured.
49	07/01/2021	Patient made sexually inappropriate comments towards staff	Incident investigated appropriate care plan put in place and staff member reassured.
50	08/01/2021	Patient was sexually inappropriate to staff	Patient with capacity issues. Staff member debriefed and supported.
51	15/02/2021	Staff member entrapped and subjected to sexually inappropriate behaviour	Reported to police. Staff member supported.
52	17/02/2021	Alleged staff member sexually touched patient	Investigation managed by ASC. Reported to Police. Case dealt with as a section 42, Staff member known to be responsible was agency and future shifts cancelled
53	20/02/2021	Patient alleged that staff member had made inappropriate sexual comments to her	Patient did not want to take any further action. Safeguarding measures taken for both patient and staff member
54	26/04/2021	Patient was sexually abusive to a member of staff	Patient suffering for mental health issues. Staff member supported
55	06/05/2021	Unknown male sexually touched staff member on their way home from hospital	Incident reported to police. Security notified and staff member supported.
56	26/05/2021	Patient made allegations that she had been raped by a member of staff and then an unknown male	Patient made allegation to Critical care staff which has been investigated by Social Care and the Police. Safeguarding referral closed 25/06/2021 Police closed case as no further action 16/06/2021 Section 42 investigated and discharged
57	09/06/2021	Patient sexually touch member of staff	Patient very confused, advanced dementia and under the care of DOLS. Staff supported staff member at time of incident.

58	23/06/2021	Patient reported that she had been approached by another patient and they made inappropriate sexual behaviours towards them	Patient was suffering a lack of capacity due to detox which led to this behaviour. Patient reassured. No further incidents.
59	24/06/2021	Staff member spoke to another member of staff in a sexually inappropriate way	Investigated internally by manager. Staff member advised regarding their conduct.
60	14/07/2021	Patient acting sexually inappropriately and was masturbating towards staff	Patient already on a yellow card sanction for another incident. Patient reminded of this and no further incidents. Staff members supported.
61	18/08/2021	Patient sexually assaulted by member of staff	The police were notified and took details from the patient. The accused member of TWS staff was prevented from working whilst the investigation took place. The patient later did not wish to proceed with the allegation and the incident was closed by the police.
62	01/10/2021	Member of staff reported that they had been sexually touch by another member of staff	This was investigated by HR formally. Staff member dismissed from the Trust.
63	11/10/2021	Patient sexually abusive to staff	This incident was investigated, and patient issued with a yellow card sanction. Staff member supported.
64	11/10/2021	Patient made sexual inappropriate comments and behaviours towards staff member	Reported to ASC to prevent further incidents – care plan put in place. Staff member supported.
65	12/10/2021	Patient inappropriate behaviour towards staff	Matron dealt with incident at the time. Staff supported.
66	18/10/2021	Patient sexually touched and was extremely sexually inappropriate to staff	Patient under DoLs with capacity issues. Staff supported and reassured. Security bought in to help assist with patient.
67	13/11/2021	Staff member displaying sexually inappropriate behaviour to another staff member	This was investigated formally by HR and Management.
68	18/11/2021	Patient made inappropriate sexual comments about partner in front of staff member	Reported to rehab key worker for follow up. Staff member supported. Care plan put in place for future visits.
69	24/11/2021	Patient sexually touch staff member	Patient confused and had lack of mobility – which may have caused patient to reach out. Staff member supported and debriefed.
70	25/12/2021	Patient attempted to sexually assault member of staff	Incident investigated. Team measures put in place to avoid further incidents

			again. Visits doubled up and if possible, only males sent on visits
71	06/01/2022	Patient sexually touched member of staff	Patient confused and had capacity issues. Security supported staff on the ward. Staff member supported.
72	09/02/2022	Patient tried to sexually assault member of staff	Patient has undiagnosed learning disability. Care plans set up for staff to always visit in pairs and a high priority reminder is on the system highlighting that he can be aggressive. Staff member supported.
73	03/03/2022	Patient sexually assaulted security officer	Reported to police – patient arrested. Patient issued yellow card sanction.
74	03/03/2022	Patient sexually inappropriate to staff	Reported to police – patient arrested. Patient issued yellow card sanction.
75	26/04/2022	Staff member made sexually inappropriate comments to another member of staff	Investigated by management – not formal process. Staff member apologised.
76	25/07/2022	Patient made sexually inappropriate comments to staff member	Incident investigated and yellow card sanction issued.
77	13/08/2022	Patient inappropriately touched member of staff	No update.
78	25/08/2022	Patient made inappropriate sexual comments to a member of staff	Patient was awaiting neuropsychiatric rehab and has capacity issues. Staff member reassured.
79	20/09/2022	Patient was sexually inappropriate to member of staff.	Matron investigated incident with patient. Patient sometimes has capacity issues and apologised for their actions. Staff member supported.
80	15/10/2022	Patient sexually assaulted member of staff	Matron requested to support member of staff.
81	28/11/2022	Member of staff made inappropriate sexual comments about another member of staff	Investigation ongoing.
82	19/12/2022	Patients alleges that a member of staff made sexually inappropriate behaviour them	Investigation ongoing.
83	28/12/2022	Patient inappropriately touched member of staff	Patient lacks capacity. Staff member supported. Care plan implemented to protect staff.