

FOI REF: 25/288

9th May 2025

Eastbourne District General Hospital

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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:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide me with the following information about incidents of sexual harm and physical violence that have taken place at your trust. Incidents of sexual violence include, but are not limited to, sexual harassment, sexual abuse, sexual assault and rape. (See after the question for clarification on these definitions.)

Please ensure that the data you provide is for financial years, not calendar years.

[Please see the attached document – ‘25-288 - NHS SSI PV 2025 FOI’.](#)

Total sexual safety incidents

- 1. How many sexual safety incidents did the trust record in the financial year 2024-25? (This includes incidents by all alleged perpetrators against all alleged victims: staff, patients, visitors, members of the public)**

[Please see the attached document – ‘25-288 - NHS SSI PV 2025 FOI’.](#)

- 1.1 How many of these incidents took place on the trust premises?**
- 1.2 How many sexual safety incidents on the trust premises did the trust record in the financial year 2023-24?***
- 1.3 How many sexual safety incidents on the trust premises did the trust record in the financial year 2022-23?***

[Please see the attached document – ‘25-288 - NHS SSI PV 2025 FOI’.](#)

(*My previous FOI asked for total incidents for 2022-23 and 2023-24 but did not specifically ask for only those incidents that occurred on the trust premises. If your previous response only covered incidents on the trust premises please answer 'no change'.)

[Please see the attached document – '25-288 - NHS SSI PV 2025 FOI'.](#)

Sexual safety incidents by staff against patients

2. How many sexual safety incidents allegedly perpetrated by staff against patients did the trust record in the 2024/25 financial year?

[Please see the attached document – '25-288 - NHS SSI PV 2025 FOI'.](#)

Sexual violence and misconduct by patients against other patients

3. How many sexual safety incidents allegedly perpetrated by patients against other patients did the trust record in the 2024-25 financial year?

[Please see the attached document – '25-288 - NHS SSI PV 2025 FOI'.](#)

Sexual safety incidents by patients against staff

4. How many sexual safety incidents allegedly perpetrated by patients against staff did the trust record in the 2024-25 financial year?

[Please see the attached document – '25-288 - NHS SSI PV 2025 FOI'.](#)

Sexual safety incidents by staff against other staff

5. How many sexual safety incidents allegedly perpetrated by staff against other staff did the trust record in the 2024-25 financial year?

[Please see the attached document – '25-288 - NHS SSI PV 2025 FOI'.](#)

Age of alleged victims

Please provide figures for the 2024-25 financial year:

6. How many of the sexual safety incidents did the trust record where the victim was a patient:

6.1 Under 18 (this includes under 16 and under 13)

6.2 Under 16 (this includes under 13)

6.3 Under 13

[Please see the attached document – '25-288 - NHS SSI PV 2025 FOI'.](#)

Only include incidents that occurred on the trust's premises.

Physical violence

7. How many incidents of physical violence perpetrated by patients against staff did the trust record in the 2024-25 financial year?

Please see the attached document – ‘25-288 - NHS SSI PV 2025 FOI’.

7.1 Do the trust's records of physical violence by patients distinguish between intentional/deliberate and un/non-intentional violence? (Unintentional violence might be due to lack of capacity, e.g. a symptom of dementia.)

Please see the attached document – ‘25-288 - NHS SSI PV 2025 FOI’.

7.2 If the trust does breakdown physical violence into intentional/deliberate and un/non-intentional violence, please provide the following data for the 2024-25 financial year:

- **Number of intentional/deliberate incidents of physical violence by patients against staff.**
- **Number of un/non-intentional violence incidents of physical violence by patients against staff.**

Please see the attached document – ‘25-288 - NHS SSI PV 2025 FOI’.

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.

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

Freedom of Information Department
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net

NHS trust name: [East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust](#)

Questions

How many sexual safety incidents did the trust record in the financial year 2024-25? (This includes incidents by all alleged perpetrators against all alleged victims: staff, patients, visitors, members of the public)

2024-25 Notes, e.g. gaps in data

Answer: 26

1.1 How many of these incidents took place on the trust premises?

2024-25 Notes, e.g. gaps in data

Answer: 17

1.2 How many sexual safety incidents on the trust premises did the trust record in the financial year 2023-24?*

2023-24 Notes, e.g. gaps in data

Answer: No change *My previous FOI asked for total incidents for 2022-23 and 2023-24 but did not specifically ask for only those incidents that occurred on the trust premises. If your previous response only covered incidents on the trust premises please answer 'no change'.

1.3 How many sexual safety incidents on the trust premises did the trust record in the financial year 2022-23?*

2022-23 Notes, e.g. gaps in data

Answer: No change *My previous FOI asked for total incidents for 2022-23 and 2023-24 but did not specifically ask for only those incidents that occurred on the trust premises. If your previous response only covered incidents on the trust premises please answer 'no change'.

2 How many sexual safety incidents allegedly perpetrated by staff against patients did the trust record in the financial year 2024-25?

2024-25 Notes, e.g. gaps in data

Answer: 6

3 How many sexual safety incidents allegedly perpetrated by patients against other patients did the trust record in the financial year 2024-25?

2024-25 Notes, e.g. gaps in data

Answer: 2

4 How many sexual safety incidents allegedly perpetrated by patients against staff did the trust record in the financial year 2024-25?

2024-25 Notes, e.g. gaps in data

Answer: 10

5 How many sexual safety incidents allegedly perpetrated by staff against other staff did the trust record in the financial year 2024-25?

2024-25 Notes, e.g. gaps in data

Answer: 7

6 How many of the sexual safety incidents did the trust record where the victim was a patient under 18 (this includes victims under 16 and under 13) in the financial year 2024-25?

2024-25 Notes, e.g. gaps in data

Answer: 0 N.B. Only include incidents that took place on the trust premises.

6.1 How many of the sexual safety incidents did the trust record where the victim was a patient under 16 (this includes victims under 13) in the financial year 2024-25?

2024-25 Notes, e.g. gaps in data

Answer: 0 N.B. Only include incidents that took place on the trust premises.

6.2 How many of the sexual safety incidents did the trust record where the victim was a patient under 13 in the financial year 2024-25?

2024-25 Notes, e.g. gaps in data

Answer: 0 N.B. Only include incidents that took place on the trust premises.

7 How many incidents of physical violence perpetrated by patients against staff did the trust record in the financial year 2024-25?

2024-25 Notes, e.g. gaps in data

Answer: 551

7.1 How many incidents of intentional/deliberate physical violence perpetrated by patients against staff did the trust record in the financial year 2024-25?

2024-25 Notes, e.g. gaps in data

Answer: 0 not recorded as intentional/non-intentional

7.2 How many incidents of un/non-intentional/deliberate physical violence perpetrated by patients against staff did the trust record in the financial year 2024-25?

2024-25 Notes, e.g. gaps in data

Answer: 0 not recorded as intentional/non-intentional

Please explain any gaps in your data in the notes columns above.

If the decision is made to withhold some of this data using exemptions in FOI legislation or the Data Protection Act, cite the exemption/s used in the notes column.

Terminology:

Sexual safety incidents include any behaviour of a sexual nature that is unwanted, or makes another person feel uncomfortable or afraid. This includes:

sexual assault: when a person is coerced or physically forced to engage in sexual activity against their will, or when a person (of any gender) touches another person sexually without their consent.

sexual harassment: any behaviour that is characterised by inappropriate sexual remarks, gestures or physical advances which are unwanted and make a person feel uncomfortable, intimidated or degrade their dignity.

other sexual incidents: where an individual may have witnessed or experienced something of a sexual nature that does not fit in to the categories of sexual harassment or assault, and which made the person feel uncomfortable and/or sexually unsafe.

Un/non-intentional physical violence relates to incidents where the patient lacks capacity, e.g. incidents perpetrated by patients with dementia.