

Our Ref: NG/RM/24031  
Date: 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Nicola Griffiths  
Deputy Director of Governance  
North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust  
Lawton House  
Bellringer Road  
Trentham  
ST4 8HH

Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

## Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

### Requested information:

1. Please can you provide the number of physical assaults against hospital staff by patients and members of the public on the Trusts premises for the following five years: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023?

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Physical assaults against hospital staff	434	437	515	515	472

2. How many of these physical assaults were reported to the police for the following five years: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023?

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Physical assaults reported to police	45	22	51	58	32

3. If you hold this data, how many had a criminal justice outcome (e.g., cautioned, charged, taken to court) for the following five years: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023?  
**The outcomes are not recorded centrally in the Trust. Incidents that are reported to the police are not always taken forward by the police or the CPS and is often not fed back to Trust explaining the rationale.**  
**There is ongoing work with the Police and the Violence Reduction Group is looking into a more robust way of these incidents being followed up.**
4. Since 2019, has the Trust introduced any additional measures to try to reduce the number of physical assaults against hospital staff? If so, please specify what measures have been taken e.g., body cameras, CCTV in clinical areas, more security guards etc? **In 2023 the Trust introduced a Violence Reduction Group with representatives from the Patient and Organisational Safety Team, Health and**

Chairman: David Rogers  
Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo

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**Safety, Head of Nursing, Restrictive Practice Department, Education and Training, Organisational Department and Human Resources.**

**The Trust has also employed security staff for the Crisis Care Centre.**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review of the management of your request. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Dr Buki Adeyemo, Chief Executive, North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust, Trust Headquarters, Lawton House, Bellringer Road, Trentham, ST4 8HH. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely



**Nicola Griffiths**  
**Deputy Director of Governance**



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Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo  
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