

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference FoI/23/187
Assault Against Staff

- 1. The total number of physical assaults on staff recorded in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31)**

21/22 – 969

22/23 – 675

- 2. The total number of physical assaults on staff recorded that involved medical factors in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31)**

In completing a search for the information requested, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) has confirmed that this information is not centrally recorded or collated. To retrieve the information requested would require a manual search through individual records and the UHB considers that this would exceed the limit set within regulations for responding to a request. The UHB has therefore relied upon the Section 12 exemption ('Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit') of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is refusing your request.

The UHB has estimated that to complete the work needed to respond to this request would exceed the time limit as set within regulations to respond to a Freedom of Information Act request. Under the Act there is an allowance of two and a half days, or 18 hours, to comply with a request and the cost limit set within the fees' regulations for this amount of work (18 hours) is £450 for the UHB. The fees regulations specify that the cost of complying with a request must be calculated at the rate of £25 per hour.

- 3. The total number of times physical injury to staff was recorded following physical assaults in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31). If possible, please break down the number of injuries reported by severe/major, moderate, and low/minor.**

The UHB believes that Section 12 applies here, please see the exemption set out above.

- 4. The total number of times restraint was used on a service user/patient following a physical assault on staff in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31).**

The UHB believes that Section 12 applies here, please see the exemption set out above.

- 5. The total number of times was seclusion used on a service user/patient following a physical assault on staff in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31).**

The UHB does not have seclusion facilities.

- 6. Total number of criminal sanctions applied in relation to physical assaults on staff in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31).**

2021 / 2022 – 45 Criminal Sanctions applied in relation inappropriate behaviour, 23 of which include the narrative 'assault'.

2022 / 2023 - 40 Criminal Sanctions applied in relation inappropriate behaviour, 19 of which include the narrative 'assault'.

7. Total number of civil and administrative sanctions applied in relation to physical assaults on staff in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31).

The UHB believes that Section 12 applies here, please see the exemption set out above.

However, under Section 16, which provides us with the duty to advise and assist, the UHB can inform you that all sanctions placed relate to inappropriate behaviour.

2021 / 2022 – 101 internal sanctions applied

2022 / 2023 – 88 internal sanctions applied

8. The total number of times intended police action in relation to physical assaults on staff was recorded as charge in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31)

Please see the response to question 6.

9. The total number of times intended police action in relation to physical assaults on staff was recorded as verbal warning in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31)

2021/2022 – 0 recorded incidents

2022/2023 – 1 recorded incidents

10. The total number of times intended police action in relation to physical assaults on staff was recorded as no action in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31)

2021/2022 – 8 recorded incidents of no further action by Police following an assault (insufficient evidence / Case discontinued / Not in public interest to pursue).

2022/2023 – 5 recorded incidents of no further action by Police following an assault (insufficient evidence / Case discontinued / Not in public interest to pursue).

11. The total number of times it was recorded that the victim did not want police to pursue the matter in relation to physical assaults on staff in 2021/22 and 2022/23 (financial years from April 1 to March 31)

2021/2022 – 7 recorded incidents - victim did not want police to pursue the matter in relation to physical assaults on staff

2022 / 2023 – 29 recorded incidents - victim did not want police to pursue the matter in relation to physical assaults on staff