

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request Reference FoI/24/328**

**Violence Policies**

**Information Requested:**

Specifically, I am seeking information pertaining to the acute NHS hospitals within your purview, but excluding hospitals specialising in mental health or psychiatric care.

Please may you provide me with:

1. Copies of all policies related to violence by patients and/or their visitors against staff. Please include all policies related to the following:
  - Any physical, verbal, or sexual aggression, assault, or stalking.
  - Violence both experienced and witnessed by staff.
  - Any separate policies for different types of violence, different staff groups, or different phases of violence, e.g. during and following the event.
  
2. Copies of all policies/procedures related to the following post-violence measures, if not included within the above (1):
  - Immediate sanctions for aggressor(s) (e.g. discharge)
  - Processes for incident reporting
  - Processes for debrief with staff member(s) and/or aggressor(s)
  - Follow-up with aggressor(s) (e.g. accountability letter, behaviour contract)
  - Counselling or similar longer-term psychological support for staff member(s)
  - Incident investigation (e.g. root cause analysis) and feedback to relevant parties
  - Longer-term sanctions for aggressor(s) (e.g. card system)
  - Examples of processes for tailored management plans for patients with a known history of aggressive behaviour (including use of a flag/alert system)
  - Staff sickness absence and/or returning to work following work-related injury

**Response Details:**

After considering your request, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board believes that section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) applies in this instance and is refusing your request. Under the FOIA, a public authority does not have to respond to a request if the information being sought is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means. Under our obligation to advise and assist per section 16 of the FOIA, I can confirm that the relevant information can be found [here](#).