Reference Number:	FOIAH2324/590
From:	Press/Media
Date:	23 January 2024
Subject:	Number of physical assaults against hospital staff

Q1   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?

A1   2019
- Physical Abuse incidents (patient on staff) – 78
- Physical Abuse incident (Public / visitor on staff) – 3

2020
- Physical Abuse incidents (patient on staff) – 58
- Physical Abuse incident (Public / visitor on staff) – 3

2021
- Physical Abuse incidents (patient on staff) – 43
- Physical Abuse incident (Public / visitor on staff) – 1

2022
- Physical Abuse incidents (patient on staff) – 28
- Physical Abuse incident (Public / visitor on staff) – 5

2023
- Physical Abuse incidents (patient on staff) – 67
- Physical Abuse incident (Public / visitor on staff) – 4

Total Physical Abuse incidents (patient on staff) over a 5 year period is 271, with a further 16 incidents recorded of Physical Abuse incidents (Public / visitor on staff)

Q2   How many of these physical assaults were reported to the police for the following five years: 2019, 2020,2021, 2022, 2023?

A2   Information not held – the Trust does not routinely collate or hold this information centrally as part of its management or performance data.

Q3   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?

A3   Information not held – the Trust does not routinely collate or hold this information centrally as part of its management or performance data.

Q4   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?

A4   Yes. Over the last few years we have introduced anti bite gloves, spit guards, body-worn cameras and more intensive and specific training for security and staff.