

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

RF24-059

Request:

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

Response:

We can confirm East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust (EKHUFT) holds part of the information you have requested.

1.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Patient behaviour - physical assault to a member of staff	173	142	179	187	192
Visitor or Other person/s behaviour - physical assault to a member of staff	2	0	1	3	2
Total	175	142	180	190	194

2.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Patient behaviour - physical assault to a member of staff	1	5	13	13	3
Visitor or Other person/s behaviour - physical assault to a member of staff	1	0	0	0	0
Total	2	5	13	13	3

3. Information not held

4. Please note - EKHUFT has outsourced the manned guarding service to 2gether Support Solutions Ltd. which sub-contracts this service to MPD FM. From 2022 onwards, the following measures have been put in place:
 - a. An additional guard has been put in place in the Emergency Departments (WHH/QEQM/ K&CH)
 - b. Buckland Hospital Dover and Royal Victoria Hospital Folkestone now have a 24/7 security presence as a visible deterrent
 - c. Body Worn Video cameras are used by security staff
 - d. CCTV has been installed in the new builds and sites have been enhanced with additional cameras
 - e. MAYBO training/Clinical Holding training was made available to staff to support the Conflict Resolution e-learning

(DATE OF RESPONSE: 16 FEBRUARY 2024)