

**Freedom of Information Request 19 082**

**Our Reference:** FOI 19 082 / AA / PB  
**Name:**  
**Date:** 26 March 2019  
**Address:**

Dear

Further to your Freedom of Information Request, please find the Trust's response below:

I am writing to make an open government request to all the information from your trust to which I am entitled to under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – regarding physical and non-physical assaults against NHS Staff.

This is a follow-up to the data previously released to and published by Unison and the Health Service Journal for the year 2016-2017, so please release the data I am requesting with the same parameters used in this previous data for the year 2017-2018.

The questions below are in order of importance, if answering these questions is likely to exceed the cost and time limit for responding to an FOI please answer them in order until these limits have been met. I would like to request the following:

1) The total number of physical assaults on staff for the following time periods:

2017-2018  
2018-2019, or up until the most recent month available

By physical assaults on staff I refer to the definition used in the NHS Protect 2016 Guidance: “the intentional application of force against the person without lawful justification resulting in physical injury or personal discomfort. Spitting is included in the definition of a physical assault.”

If available, please also release the relevant data sets for these time periods.

The total number of physical assaults is recorded as follows:

<b>2017-2018</b>	372
<b>2018-2019</b>	462

2) The total number of non-physical assaults on staff for the following time periods:

2017-2018  
2018-2019, or up until the most recent month available

By non-physical assaults on staff I refer to the definition used in the NHS Protect 2016 Guidance: “the use of inappropriate words or behaviour causing distress and/or constituting harassment. Non-physical assault



includes: offensive or obscene language; verbal abuse and swearing; brandishing weapons, or objects which could be used as weapons; attempted assaults; offensive gestures; threats; intimidation; harassment or stalking; damage to buildings equipment or vehicles which causes fear for personal safety; offensive language or behaviour related to a person's, race, gender, nationality, religion, disability, age or sexual orientation; inappropriate sexual language or behaviour."

If available, please also release the relevant data sets for these time periods.

The total number of non-physical assaults is recorded as follows:

<b>2017-2018</b>	593
<b>2018-2019</b>	543

Kindly note that the figures provided for 2018-2019 is the data recorded as at February 2019.

Kind regards,

Freedom of Information Team  
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<https://www.humber.nhs.uk/about-our-trust/freedom-of-information-enquiry-form.htm>

