

Reference:	FOI.9253.22
Subject:	Abuse incidents
Date of Request:	28 June 2022

Requested:

Many thanks for your reply to FOI 9102. I believe I have all the information in regards to question 2, thank you.

In regards to question 1, as not all the information could be released, could I request:

1. Year end totals for the number of abuse incidents against staff working In the Emergency Department, for all of the categories combined:
Assaults resulting in injury
Assaults resulting in non-injury
Verbal abuse
Sexual harassment/abuse
Other abuse not characterised as above
For 2017,2018,2019,2020,2021, 2022 up to March.
2. To confirm that in the whole of 2021 there were 0 incidents of verbal abuse.

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) provides, within the table below, the number of abuse incidents recorded against staff working in the UHB's Accident and Emergency (A&E) Departments, for all abuse categories, during the calendar years 2017 to 2021 and 1 January to 31 March 2022.

Calendar year	Number of incidents of assault
2017	33
2018	*
2019	51
2020	*
2021	30
2021 (to 31 March)	25

The UHB has replaced the figures in the table above with *, as these redacted figures could be identified if used with those provided in FOI 9102, which would undermine the Section 40(2) exemption (full explanation provided below).

2. The UHB confirms that there were incidents of verbal abuse recorded against staff working in the UHB's A&E Departments, during 2021. However, the UHB is unable to provide you with the exact number, due to the low numbers of cases (5 and under), as there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed. Therefore, the UHB is withholding these details under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA).

This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK General Data Protection Regulations (UK GDPR), as its disclosure would constitute unfair and unlawful

processing and would be contrary to the principles and articles 6 and 9 of the UK GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore, there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

In reaching this decision, the Data Protection Act 2018/UK GDPR define personal data as data which relates to a living individual who can be identified solely from that data, or from that data and other information, which is in the possession of the data controller.