



19 February 2025

Email:

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request No: 36159-25
Subject: Assault Data on NIAS Staff
Date Received: 04/02/2025

Thank you for your request for information received on 4th February which was dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) Health and Social Care Trust has now completed its search for the information you requested and that is detailed below.

<p>Can I have the total number of assaults on ambulance staff (with and without injury) from 1st January 2024 until 31st December 2024?</p>	<p>NIAS uses Nationally agreed categories to record assaults on staff. There is a recognition that all staff who have been assaulted have sustained an injury, irrespective of whether it is an actual physical injury or a moral injury</p> <p>For the period 01.01.2024 to 31.12.2024 (inclusive), the following assaults were recorded:</p> <p>Physical contact (actual assault) 174</p> <p>Physical threat (no contact) 190</p> <p>Psychological Abuse (bullying and harassment) 6</p> <p>Sexual (including harassment and indecent exposure) 27</p> <p>Verbal Abuse 171</p> <p>Verbal abuse with gender content <5*</p> <p>Verbal abuse with racial content <5*</p>
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*To protect the privacy and confidentiality of individuals and maintain operational security, we report small numbers as "<5" rather than exact figures. This approach aligns with our duty to minimise the risk of unintended identification, especially in instances where data sets are small or could be linked to other publicly available information. This measure is consistent with data protection principles under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I hope the above fully assists you.



Please note that, under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations, if you wish to publish or otherwise use this information besides for your own means, you will need to seek our permission to do so.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter.

In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Director of Planning, Performance and Corporate Services, Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) HSC Trust, Site 30, Knockbracken Healthcare Park, Saintfield Road, Belfast, BT8 8SG.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request, you may make a complaint under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the Trust has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act.

You can write to the Information Commissioner at:

Email: ni@ico.org.uk
Website: [ICO Website](http://ico.org.uk)
Post: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE SK9 5AF
Telephone: 028 9027 8757 or 0303 123 1114 (Belfast based Office)

In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out. However the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that NIAS replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ <https://nias.hscni.net> Personal details in respect of your request will have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Yours sincerely

(not signed – issued by email)

Information Governance Team

This response has been prepared for disclosure log publication. Only minor editorial or redaction amendments have been made for clarity and compliance with data protection legislation. The substantive content is identical to that provided to the requestor and the original issued version remains the authoritative record.