



4 July 2025

Email:

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request No: 40777-25

Subject: Incident of Violence/Aggression towards NIAS Staff for period 2020 to 2025 by financial year

Date Received: 29/05/2025

Thank you for your request for information received on 29th May 2025 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.

FOI QUESTION(S)	ANSWER(S)																		
<p>How many incidents of violence / aggression were there towards our staff?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please provide a breakdown of this number per Male / Female staff who received these Please indicate if this was between a staff member and a patient or staff to staff member 	<p>The number of reported incidents of violence and aggression directed towards NIAS staff between 2020-21 to 2024-25 is shown below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>From patient or other person at scene</th> <th>From staff</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2020-21</td> <td>586</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021-22</td> <td>644</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022-23</td> <td>619</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023-24</td> <td>674</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2024-25</td> <td>558</td> <td>17</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note- NIAS does not mandate the gender of the affected person to be recorded on a reported incident, therefore it is not possible to provide a breakdown by Male/Female.</p>		From patient or other person at scene	From staff	2020-21	586	4	2021-22	644	10	2022-23	619	12	2023-24	674	18	2024-25	558	17
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2023-24	674	18																	
2024-25	558	17																	
<p>How many incidents of inappropriate behaviour were there towards our staff?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please provide a breakdown of this number per Male / Female staff who received these Please indicate if this was between a staff member and a patient or staff to staff member 	<p>The data above will include all recorded incidents of inappropriate behaviour.</p>																		



<p>How many incidents of sexually inappropriate behaviour were there towards our staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please provide a breakdown of this number per Male / Female staff who received these • Please indicate if this was between a staff member and a patient or staff to staff member 	<p>The number of reported incidents of violence and aggression directed towards NIAS staff between 2020-21 and 2024-25 is shown below:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="831 412 1289 680"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>From patient or other person at scene</th> <th>From staff</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2020-21</td> <td>25</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021-22</td> <td>50</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022-23</td> <td>37</td> <td><5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023-24</td> <td>48</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2024-25</td> <td>40</td> <td><5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note- NIAS does not mandate the gender of the affected person to be recorded on a reported incident, therefore it is not possible to provide a breakdown by Male/Female.</p>		From patient or other person at scene	From staff	2020-21	25	0	2021-22	50	0	2022-23	37	<5	2023-24	48	0	2024-25	40	<5
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2020-21	25	0																	
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2024-25	40	<5																	
<p>How many incidents of sexually inappropriate behaviour that were recorded went to formal grievance / disciplinary?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please provide a breakdown of this number per Male / Female staff who received these 	<p>Less than 5</p> <p>Both incidents were of Male staff towards females.</p>																		

The Trust has a duty to protect patient/staff confidentiality, in line with this duty the figure <5 has been provided where the figures are very low. This is because of the potential risk of identification of an individual. In reaching this decision the Trust has considered the question asked the area of staff covered in which the response relates. In addition, the Trust has taken into account the fact that all information disclosed in response to an FOI is disclosed to the 'world at large' and will be published on the Trust website.

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](#)
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.