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Request for Information Reference: 03.24.80

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Email only

22nd April 2024

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 28th March 2024 in relation to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust). Your request has been processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and I am now able to provide you with a response.

Your request was in relation to Reported incidents of racism/racist abuse and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

I would like to request the following information:

- 1. Reported incidents of racism/racist abuse (of any type, e.g verbal, physical) by patients against staff at your trust, broken down by month, from the dates 31 January 2014 - 31 January 2024.**

| Year of incident | verbal abuse incident | Physical Assault & Verbal Abuse |
|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2014 | Apr-14 | - |
| 2015 | Jan-15 | - |
| | Sep-15 | - |
| | Nov-15 | - |
| 2016 | Mar-16 | - |
| | May-16 x3 | - |
| | Nov-16 | - |
| | Dec-16 x2 | - |
| 2017 | Oct-17 | - |
| | Nov-17 | - |
| 2018 | Mar-18 | - |

| | | |
|------|-----------|-----------|
| | Jun-18 | - |
| | Jul-18 | - |
| | Oct-18 | - |
| | Nov-18 | - |
| 2019 | Feb-19 x3 | - |
| | Jul-19 | - |
| | Oct-19 x2 | - |
| | Nov-19 | - |
| | Dec-19 x2 | Dec-19 |
| 2020 | Jan-20 | - |
| | Apr-20 | - |
| | Aug-20 | - |
| | Sep-20 | - |
| | Dec-20 | - |
| 2021 | Mar-21 | - |
| | Apr-21 | - |
| | May-21 | - |
| | Jul-21 | - |
| | Aug-21 x3 | - |
| | Dec-21 | - |
| 2022 | Jan-22 x3 | - |
| | Feb-22 | - |
| | Mar-22 x3 | Mar-22 |
| | May-22 | - |
| | Jun-22 x3 | - |
| | Jul-22 x3 | - |
| | Aug-22 | - |
| | Sep-22 x2 | - |
| | Oct-22 | - |
| | Nov-22 x3 | - |
| 2023 | Feb-23 | - |
| | Mar-23 x2 | Mar-23 |
| | Apr-23 | - |
| | May-23 x4 | - |
| | Jun-23 | Jun-23 |
| | Jul-23 | - |
| | Aug-23 x3 | - |
| | Sep-23 | - |
| | Oct-23 | - |
| | Dec-23 x2 | Nov-23 x2 |
| 2024 | Jan-24 | - |

2. **Reported incidents of racism/racist abuse (of any type, e.g verbal, physical) by staff against staff, broken down by month, from the dates 31 January 2014 - 31 January 2024.**

| Year of incident | verbal abuse incident |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| 2019 | Jun-19 |
| | Jul-19 x2 |
| 2020 | Jan-20 |

Explanatory note - The Trust uses an incident reporting system whereby all incidents of a security / violence and aggression nature are recorded as incidents no matter the clinical condition of the instigator using a general racial abuse heading.

A large number of the physical and violence and aggression incidents listed within this response have been conducted by patients who did not know what they had done was wrong due to a medical illness and / or confused state of mind and therefore lacked capacity in some form often through living with dementia, having delirium, living with a severe learning disability, suffering from mental health issues or other general incapacity issues.

All incidents are investigated accordingly no matter the mental capacity of the instigator with outcomes being determined when all relevant information has been reviewed. If it is deemed in the best interests' additional actions will be taken.

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log on the Trust's website. However please be assured that we anonymise all responses prior to adding them to the disclosure log.

I hope that this response has provided you with the information you had requested. If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or in writing. If however, you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled and would like an internal review, you will need to contact me in writing at the above address or via cdda-tr.cddffoi@nhs.

If you remain dissatisfied with our response following an internal review you have the right to appeal to The Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. More information is available on their website; www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Corporate Records and Freedom of Information Facilitator