NHS Tayside has now considered your request dated 20 June 2019.

NHS Tayside wishes to advise you that there are exemptions applicable to the information requested. Please refer to the exemptions section of this correspondence.

**Extract from Request**

“To request a copy of any statistics or records you hold on assaults on your workforce that have occurred in the course of their employment in the 12 months from 31st May 2018 – 31st May 2019 (or the statistics that you hold which most closely correspond to this time period). We would also like a breakdown of that information – specifically the nature of the assault and the category of worker (e.g. job title, area of work).”

**Clarification (via email 16/07/2019)**

“If you could give us numbers of the following – Physical, Sexual, GP Violent or, Aggressive Event, GP Violent and Aggressive Incident, Racist Physical and Racist Sexual. As regards ‘area of work’ ... This was intended to refer to the job being performed by the staff member rather than anything geographical.”

**Response**

NHS Tayside takes very seriously any kind of violence, both physical and verbal, against any member of our staff, patients or visitors and may pursue prosecution if used.

Staff are actively encouraged to report all episodes, no matter how minor, on our new electronic reporting system. We have a good working partnership with local police to manage incidents when they may occur.

It is a fundamental right of our staff that they can carry out their duties without having to face the threat of violence or aggression.
Please see below the assaults on NHS Tayside workforce between 31st May 2018 – 31st May 2019.

Where the value of statistics provided in the table are less than 5, but greater than zero, these statistics are represented by ‘<5’. NHS Tayside will not provide any further breakdown of this information, as this could potentially lead to identification of individuals and would contravene confidentiality and data protection principles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subcategory</th>
<th>Employee</th>
<th>Nursing or Care Home</th>
<th>Student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aggressive behaviour by a patient - Physical</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggressive behaviour by a patient - Sexual</td>
<td>&lt;5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>&lt;5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggressive behaviour by a visitor - Physical</td>
<td>&lt;5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggressive behaviour by staff – Physical</td>
<td>&lt;5</td>
<td>&lt;5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggressive behaviour by staff – Sexual</td>
<td>&lt;5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GP violent or aggressive adverse event</td>
<td>&lt;5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>&lt;5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document Ref.</th>
<th>FOISA Exemption Applied</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IGTFOISA6444</td>
<td>Section 38 – Personal information</td>
<td>Disclosure of information surrounding individual members of staff would contravene Data Protection principles and therefore may be unlawful.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Under section 20 (1) of the Act, if you are dissatisfied with the way NHS Tayside has dealt with your request, you have a right to request a review of our actions and decisions in relation to your request, and you have a right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commission.

A request for an internal review must be made in writing no later than forty working days from receipt of this response and sent to:
Head of Information Governance
Maryfield House (South)
30 Mains Loans
Dundee, DD4 7BT
Or by email to informationgovernance.tayside@nhs.net

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Scottish Information Commissioner for a decision. The Scottish Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews, KY16 9DS
Or via the online appeal service: www.itstpublicknowledge.info/Appeal

If you have any queries about this correspondence, please contact:

Information Governance Team
Maryfield House, 30 Mains Loan
Dundee, DD4 7BT
Telephone - 01382 424413
E-mail: informationgovernance.tayside@nhs.net

Information Governance
NHS Tayside
31 July 2019