



Resolution

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January 2026
FOI_7617

The following information was requested on 16 December 2025:

This is a follow up to [FOI 6874](#)

Please answer the following questions for each of the last seven financial years, namely 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24.

1. Please state how many claims were paid, what the damages were and the costs for each side, and the total cost to NHS Resolution for claims paid out under your employers' liability where the claimants' injuries were as a result of an assault?

2. Please state how many claims were paid, what the damages were and the costs for each side, and the total cost to NHS Resolution for claims paid out under your public liability insurance where the claimants' injuries were as a result of an assault? If possible, could you separate out the claims that were paid to patients for this reason?

Note: I am asking this question in relation to payments that were made in a financial year regardless of when the incident took place or when the initial claim was lodged with you.

Could you now supply me with similar data answering questions 1 and 2 again but this time in relation to claims paid out in the 2024/25 financial year?

In addition could you also provide me with a table showing the 20 NHS organisations that have paid out the greatest number of claims in the last five financial years (2020/21 to 2024/25 inclusive), as well as the damages paid out in those claims.

Our Response

Please find attached the requested information we are able to provide. This information only covers England and not the rest of the UK. We are able to provide the data on the claims and incidents notified to us. We will not hold the details of all incidents relating to physical assault. Individual Trusts will hold this.

NB: We have recently changed the way we report on our FOIs to align better with our published documents. Streamlining our reporting on FOIs with our annual published reports may mean a variation in snapshot dates. This means this data may not align with previous similar requests and it may not be possible for you to compare this information with a previous request. For further information, please refer to [Guidance-note-Understanding-NHS-Resolution-data-updated](#)

Claims notified/received in any given year will often relate to incidents that have occurred many years prior. Due to the nature of clinical negligence claims and the level of investigation needed to bring them to a resolution, claims received and notified in a specific year may take years to settle and close. **They are not guaranteed to be settled and closed in the same year.** As such, there will be a time gap between incident and claim closure.

Due to the way in which data is extracted, it is also possible that the same claim may appear more than once in a dataset, across different year groups e.g. where the case has been closed (as nil damages payment), challenged, reopened, and closed again at conclusion.

The data, when compared with other previous responses, may show a variation in numbers of claims closed per year and costs attributed to those claims. This is a reflection of the nature of individual claims received and resolved by NHS Resolution, which can vary significantly. As such, these fluctuations cannot be interpreted as trends.

LTPS Scheme

NHS Resolution manages a number of risk-pooling schemes (similar to insurance) for the NHS, one of which is the Liability to Third Parties Scheme (**LTPS**). This covers both employers' liability (**EL**) (i.e. in relation to duties of care owed to employees) and public liability (**PL**) (i.e. in relation to duties of care owed other patients, visitors, and other members of the public). You can find out more about the LTPS scheme here: [Liabilities to Third Parties Scheme - NHS Resolution](#)

Please find attached the following tables:

Table 1 shows: Number and Cost of Claims Closed in the financial year '**2024/25**' with a damages payment, which relate to **Employer Liability** claims where the cause at any level is '**Assault**'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure.

In response to **Q2** we are able to provide you with the number of claims recorded under public liability, in relation to duties of care owed to other patients, visitors, and other members of the public. Please see table 2 attached. We are unable to separate out which of these claims relates specifically just to patients. To do so would involve a manual review of individual claims files and this exercise would likely exceed the FOI cost limit. Therefore, we estimate that the cost of complying with the request in its entirety would exceed the 'appropriate limit.' Section 12(1) of the FOIA is a provision which allows a public authority to refuse to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed a set limit (known as the 'appropriate limit'). The 'appropriate limit' for NHS Resolution is £450. This equates to 18 hours of work at the rate of £25 per hour set out in the 'Fees Regulations'. We have provided you with the information that is readily available within the appropriate limit.

Table 2 shows: Number and Cost of Claims Closed in the financial year '**2024/25**' with a damages payment, which relate to **Public Liability** Claims where the cause at any level is '**Assault**'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure.

Table 3 shows: The 20 NHS organisations ranked by the number and total damages paid for **Employer Liability** claims closed between the financial years **2020/21** and **2024/25**, where a damages payment was made and the cause at any level is "**Assault**". The figures include damages paid up to the end of the relevant financial year in which the claim was closed.

Table 4 shows: The 20 NHS organisations ranked by the number and total damages paid for **Public Liability** claims closed between the financial years **2020/21** and **2024/25**, where a damages payment was made and the cause at any level is "**Assault**". The figures include damages paid up to the end of the relevant financial year in which the claim was closed.

Please note: the tables broken down by Trusts should not be interpreted as a league table. Larger member organisations and those which provide more complex treatments may receive more claims than smaller organisations or those providing low risk care. Inevitably, different institutions face different levels of risk because of the variations in the nature and complexity of the procedures they perform. In some circumstances, volumes of reported cases may be impacted by multiple claims notified in relation to one cause of action.

Low Numbers

Please note we have suppressed low figures (and high figures that would make it possible to work out low numbers) as we believe that disclosure of information with this level of granularity is exempt under Section 40(2) by virtue of section 40(3A) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, where disclosure to a member of the public would contravene one or more of the data protection principles. The data protection principles are set out in Article 5 of the General Data Protection Regulation. We take the view that it would not be fair or lawful (given the sensitive and confidential nature of the information held) to disclose such information, and any disclosure would therefore contravene the first data protection principle.

In some instances, the low numbers of claims (fewer than 5) in each category, the likelihood exists that individuals who are the subject of this information may be identified either from this information alone, or in combination with other available information. In addition to this, as this information is considered to be sensitive personal data (the data subjects' medical condition); NHS Resolution believes it has a greater responsibility to protect those individuals' identities, as disclosure could potentially cause damage and/or distress to those involved. Where we are in the territory of such small numbers in the attached, we have used a '#' symbol in the relevant field. You should still be able to see aggregate/total details for higher level fields containing this data.

Please refer to [Understanding NHS Resolution data](#) guidance for further details on how our Claims database is categorised.

Please also visit our [Learning from workplace violence claims within the NHS: A thematic review - NHS Resolution](#) produced by NHS Resolution in collaboration with the Social Partnership Forum and NHS England.

Further to our obligations to provide advice and assistance, you may find it helpful to review the work of the [Getting It Right First Time team](#) with whom NHS Resolution has been working with to undertake in-depth analysis of our claims data. They have produced a number of [reports](#) from analysing our claims data which has been shared following approval of the confidentiality advisory group to the use of confidential patient information for this purpose.

This concludes our response to your request.

If you are not satisfied with the service that you have received in response to your information request, it is open to you to make a complaint and request a formal review of our decisions. If you choose to do this, you should write to [Joanne Appleby](#), Deputy Data Protection Officer for NHS Resolution, within 28 days of your receipt of this reply. Reviews of decisions made in relation to information requests are carried out by a person who was not involved in the original decision-making about the request.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a review of the decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner will not make a decision unless you have exhausted the local complaints procedure. The address of the Information Commissioner's Office is:

Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

<https://ico.org.uk/>

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NB: Number of claims fewer than 5 (and any associated values, within the same row) are masked with a "#" (in accordance with Data Protection guidelines). Accordingly, some total values may also be approximated to prevent masked values to be deduced through reverse calculation.

Table 1: Number and Cost of Claims Closed in the financial year '2024/25' with a damages payment, which relate to Employer Liability claims where the cause at any level is 'Assault'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure.

Table 2: Number and Cost of Claims Closed in the financial year '2024/25' with a damages payment, which relate to Public Liability claims where the cause at any level is 'Assault'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure.

Table 3: The 20 NHS organisations ranked by the number and total damages paid for Employer Liability claims closed between the financial years 2020/21 and 2024/25, where a damages payment was made and the cause at any level is "Assault". The figures include damages paid up to the end of the relevant financial year in which the claim was closed.

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Table 1: Number and Cost of Claims Closed in the financial year '2024/25' with a damages payment, which relate to Employer Liability claims where the cause at any level is 'Assault'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure.

ClosedSettled	Y
ClaimOutcome	Damages Paid
Scheme	(All)
LiabilityType	EL

Year of Closure	No. of Claims	Damages Paid	NHS Legal Costs Paid	Claimant Legal Costs Paid	Total Paid
2024/25	213	4,677,251	731,642	3,054,433	8,463,326
Grand Total	213	4,677,251	731,642	3,054,433	8,463,326

Table 2: Number and Cost of Claims Closed in the financial year '2024/25' with a damages payment, which relate to Public Liability claims where the cause at any level is 'Assault'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure.

ClosedSettled	Y
ClaimOutcome	Damages Paid
Scheme	(All)
LiabilityType	PL

Year of Closure	No. of Claims	Damages Paid	NHS Legal Costs Paid	Claimant Legal Costs Paid	Total Paid
2024/25	75	4,717,896	815,293	1,999,893	7,533,082
Grand Total	75	4,717,896	815,293	1,999,893	7,533,082

Please note: the tables broken down by Trusts should not be interpreted as a league table. Larger member organisations and those which provide more complex treatments may receive more claims than smaller organisations or those providing low risk care. Inevitably, different institutions face different levels of risk because of the variations in the nature and complexity of the procedures they perform. In some circumstances, volumes of reported cases may be impacted by multiple claims notified in relation to one cause of action.

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ClosedSettled	Y
ClaimOutcome	Damages Paid
Scheme	(All)
LiabilityType	EL
IsISP	N

Year of Closure	No. of Claims	Damages Paid
Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust	58	1,329,389
Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust	38	631,843
Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust	33	439,521
Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust	33	586,506
North London NHS Foundation Trust	29	670,766
Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust	23	284,099
South London & Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust	21	434,903
South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust	20	545,874
East London NHS Foundation Trust	19	215,830
Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust	17	391,339
Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust	17	115,937
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust	17	188,696
University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust	17	533,356
Birmingham & Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust	16	272,118
Cheshire & Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	16	144,270
Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust	16	175,474
Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust	16	180,128
Surrey & Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	15	230,716
Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust	14	286,197
Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	13	150,349

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Table 4: The 20 NHS organisations ranked by the number and total damages paid for Public Liability claims closed between the financial years 2020/21 and 2024/25, where a damages payment was made and the cause at any level is “Assault”. The figures include damages paid up to the end of the relevant financial year in which the claim was closed.

ClosedSettled	Y
ClaimOutcome	Damages Paid
Scheme	(All)
LiabilityType	PL
IsISP	N

Year of Closure	No. of Claims	Damages Paid
Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust	53	3,226,735
Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust	8	2,709,945
South London & Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust	7	101,404
Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust	5	18,380
East London NHS Foundation Trust	5	93,229
Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	#	#
Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust	#	#
Department of Health	#	#
Sheffield Health & Social Care NHS Foundation Trust	#	#
Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	#	#
West London NHS Trust	#	#
Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust	#	#
Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust	#	#
Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust	#	#
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	#	#
Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust	#	#
Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust	#	#
Birmingham & Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust	#	#
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust	#	#
Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust	#	#