



Resolution

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April 2026
FOI_7769

The following information was requested and clarified on 6 March 2026:

[On 6 March 2026 you requested]

Under the Freedom of information Act 2000 I am requesting the following information regarding clinical negligence claims managed by the NHS resolution:

For the last 10 financial years (2015/16 to 2024/25 inclusive), or the most recent 10 year period for which data is available.

1. The total number of clinical negligence claims notified or received where a staff or patient fall (or slip/trip/fall incident) was alleged or recorded and trailing medical leads, cables, tubing, wires, intravenous lines, monitoring equipment cables, or similar trailing connected medical equipment was identified as a contributing factor or cause in the laid description, incident notes, or supporting documentation.

2. If the exact wording above is not searchable via standard codes, please provide the closest available data using any related search terms or categories (e.g., trip hazards from medical equipment, patient and staff accidents involving cables/tubes/leads, falls due to entanglements with medical devices).

3. For the claims identified in (1) or (2) above, please provide a breakdown by financial year of:

a) Number of claims notified/received per year

b) Number of claims settled (with or without admission of liability) per year

c) Total damages/ settlement payouts paid out per year (in GBP)

d) Total legal costs/defence costs incurred by the NHS per year (In GBP) if separately recorded

4. If possible and without disproportionate effort, a high-level indication of

a) The number of such claims that proceeded to court (as opposed to settled out of court).

b) Any common injury types or outcomes mentioned (eg., fractures, head injuries), aggregated only

If the information is held but some elements are exempt (e.g., due to Section 40 personal data), please provide as much aggregated/non-identifiable data as possible

I would prefer the response in a tabular format (e.g., Excel or PDF table) if feasible , with totals and yearly figures clearly shown.

[We replied with]

Before we can respond, I would like to clarify what information we hold and are able to provide.

Please refer to our publication: [Guidance-note-Understanding-NHS-Resolution-data-updated](#) and a set of codes against which claims are logged: [CNST-Codes.xlsx](#) (see the three tabs in the spreadsheet).

*We also believe that the information you are seeking may fall under **employer's liability cases** reported through our **Liabilities to Third Parties Scheme (LTPS)**. Based on this, we are able to provide information on:*

- the **number of claims received**, and*
- the **number and cost of claims closed***

*under **Employer's Liability**, where the cause relates to **slips, trips, and falls**, between the financial years **2015/16 to 2024/25**, broken down by **litigation and non-litigation**.*

Please also refer to our publications that might assist you on the related subject at [Fol Requests Archive - NHS Resolution](#)

Would you like the information as set out above?

Your request will be put on hold until we receive the clarification requested above.

[You responded with]

Thank you for your prompt response and for clarifying how NHS Resolution holds and categorises this information. I appreciate the references to the guidance note and CNST codes.

I understand that the specific cause of "trailing medical leads, cables, tubing, or similar equipment" in patient and NHS staff falls may not be separately coded or extractable in detail under the Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts (CNST) and that such incidents are more likely captured under the Liabilities to Third Parties Scheme (LTPS) as slip, trips, and falls in employer's liability cases.

Yes, I would like you to provide the information you outlined namely:

*The number of claims received and
The number and cost of claims closed*

under Employers Liability (via LTPS), where the cause relates to slips, trips and falls, for the financial years 2015/16 to 2024/25 inclusive, broken down by litigation and non litigation.

If this data includes (or can be noted to include) incidents involving patients (as opposed to only staff/third parties), or any sub-categories/notes on equipment-related trip hazards, that would be very helpful- but understand if its not separable.

If the above is all that is reasonably available without disproportionate effort, that will suffice for my purposes.

Thank you again for your assistance. I look forward to receiving the data within the remaining FOI timeframe.

Our Response

Please find attached the information we are able to provide. Please note we only hold information for England and not for the rest of the UK.

As your initial request made reference to “staff or patient fall”, we have interpreted your request as seeking information on both public and employer’s liability cases reported under our [Liabilities to Third Parties Scheme \(LTPS\)](#) and under the categories you have specified and all data in this response is provided within these parameters. Please note a claim can be made due to more than one cause. Therefore, the tables provided within this response are based on concatenated causes. Please note we would be unable to identify incidents involving patients from public liability cases without manually reviewing each case This would be a time-consuming exercise.

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 estimate that it would take on average 20 minutes to locate, retrieve and extract the requested information from an individual file. It may therefore be the case that we would be able to examine only 54 files within 18 hours. We have provided in the attached tables the information that is readily available within the 18 hour limit.

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](#)

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.

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. Not all incidents and claims received will result in an award of compensation.

The data shows variation in numbers of claims received, 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.

Please find attached the following tables:

Table 1 shows: Number of LTPS Claims and Incidents received between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' where the Liability Type is **Employers' Liability or Public Liability**, and any Cause relates to '**slips, trips, and falls**'. Broken down by **Year of Notification**.

Table 2 shows: Number of LTPS Claims and Incidents received between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' where the Liability Type is **Employers' Liability or Public Liability**, and any Cause relates to '**slips, trips, and falls**'. Broken down by **Primary Injury**.

Table 3 shows: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with a damages payment, where the Liability Type is **Employers' Liability or Public Liability**, and any Cause relates to '**slips, trips, and falls**'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure. Broken down by **Year of Closure**.

Table 4 shows: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with a damages payment, where the Liability Type is **Employers' Liability or Public Liability**, and any Cause relates to '**slips, trips, and falls**'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure. Broken down by **Primary Injury**.

Table 5 shows: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with a damages payment, where the Liability Type is **Employers' Liability or Public Liability**, and any Cause relates to '**slips, trips, and falls**'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure. Broken down by **Litigation Status**.

The data provided relates to whether the claim was settled before or after the commencement of formal court proceedings, where "yes" means it was and "no" means it was resolved prior to the commencement of court proceedings. Please note: Not all cases where formal court proceedings are commenced will result in a formal court hearing so many of these cases will have settled "out of Court".

Table 6 shows: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with **NIL** damages paid, where the Liability Type is **Employers' Liability or Public Liability**, and any Cause relates to '**slips, trips, and falls**'. Broken down by **Year of Closure**.

Table 7 shows: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with **NIL** damages paid, where the Liability Type is **Employers' Liability or Public Liability**, and any Cause relates to '**slips, trips, and falls**'. Broken down by **Primary Injury**.

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Low Numbers

Please note we have suppressed low figures 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.

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

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/>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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 of LTPS Claims and Incidents received between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' where the Liability Type is Employers' Liability or Public Liability, and any Cause relates to 'slips, trips, and falls'. Broken down by Year of Notification.

Table 2: Number of LTPS Claims and Incidents received between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' where the Liability Type is Employers' Liability or Public Liability, and any Cause relates to 'slips, trips, and falls'. Broken down by Primary Injury.

Table 3: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with a damages payment, where the Liability Type is Employers' Liability or Public Liability, and any Cause relates to 'slips, trips, and falls'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure. Broken down by Year of Closure.

Table 4: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with a damages payment, where the Liability Type is Employers' Liability or Public Liability, and any Cause relates to 'slips, trips, and falls'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure. Broken down by Primary Injury.

Table 5: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with a damages payment, where the Liability Type is Employers' Liability or Public Liability, and any Cause relates to 'slips, trips, and falls'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure. Broken down by Litigation Status.

Table 6: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with NIL damages paid, where the Liability Type is Employers' Liability or Public Liability, and any Cause relates to 'slips, trips, and falls'. Broken down by Year of Closure.

Table 7: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with NIL damages paid, where the Liability Type is Employers' Liability or Public Liability, and any Cause relates to 'slips, trips, and falls'. Broken down by Primary Injury.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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Table 8: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with NIL damages paid, where the Liability Type is Employers' Liability or Public Liability, and any Cause relates to 'slips, trips, and falls'. Broken down by Litigation Status.

Table 1: Number of LTPS Claims and Incidents received between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' where the Liability Type is Employers' Liability or Public Liability, and any Cause relates to 'slips, trips, and falls'. Broken down by Year of Notification.

Notified Y

Year of Notification	No. of Claims
EL	6,596
2015/16	817
2016/17	776
2017/18	725
2018/19	695
2019/20	716
2020/21	571
2021/22	610
2022/23	563
2023/24	572
2024/25	551
PL	4,000
2015/16	530
2016/17	479
2017/18	465
2018/19	455
2019/20	445
2020/21	282
2021/22	302
2022/23	314
2023/24	376
2024/25	352
Grand Total	10,596

Table 2: Number of LTPS Claims and Incidents received between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' where the Liability Type is Employers' Liability or Public Liability, and any Cause relates to 'slips, trips, and falls'. Broken down by Primary Injury.

Notified	Y
Primary Injury	No. of Claims
EL	6,596
Orthopaedic Injuries	6,078
Head Injuries	252
Facial Injuries	168
Injuries to Internal Organs	72
Burns	6
Injuries affecting the senses	5
Other	5
Scarring (Except Facial)	#
Psychiatric Damage	#
Unknown	#
(blank)	#
PL	4,000
Orthopaedic Injuries	3,439
Head Injuries	259
Facial Injuries	225
Injuries to Internal Organs	44
Other	10
Psychiatric Damage	5
Scarring (Except Facial)	#
Fatality	#
Damage	#
Injuries affecting the senses	#
Sickness/Disease	#
Injuries Involving Paralysis	#
(blank)	#
Unknown	#
Grand Total	10,596

Table 3: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with a damages payment, where the Liability Type is Employers' Liability or Public Liability, and any Cause relates to 'slips, trips, and falls'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure. Broken down by Year of Closure.

ClaimOutcome		Damages Paid			
Closed	Settled	Y			
Year of Closure		No. of Claims	Damages Paid	NHS Legal Costs Paid	Claimant Legal Costs
EL		4,600	62,915,143	9,926,119	44,838,547
2015/16		680	7,684,305	1,167,085	7,182,727
2016/17		541	6,312,893	1,110,639	5,737,455
2017/18		492	5,662,263	910,079	4,398,854
2018/19		465	6,870,100	941,884	4,703,145
2019/20		445	5,773,270	1,070,104	3,987,721
2020/21		412	6,118,383	1,146,255	4,230,894
2021/22		350	5,427,391	1,018,649	3,335,988
2022/23		402	6,667,711	1,079,151	3,909,457
2023/24		459	6,119,524	781,445	3,714,700
2024/25		354	6,279,304	700,829	3,637,606
PL		2,067	23,725,077	3,053,488	16,353,734
2015/16		291	3,378,539	406,567	2,865,558
2016/17		244	1,900,769	219,003	1,692,500
2017/18		216	1,814,282	274,227	1,354,755
2018/19		253	2,381,781	336,701	1,731,634
2019/20		218	2,275,360	200,899	1,487,476
2020/21		191	2,417,528	381,254	1,723,665
2021/22		155	2,765,740	311,873	1,373,780
2022/23		157	2,543,472	338,591	1,436,983
2023/24		182	1,848,024	279,247	1,267,885
2024/25		160	2,399,582	305,125	1,419,499
Grand Total		6,667	86,640,220	12,979,608	61,192,281

Table 4: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with a damages payment, where the Liability Type is Employers' Liability or Public Liability, and any Cause relates to 'slips, trips, and falls'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure. Broken down by Primary Injury.

ClaimOutcome ClosedSettled	Damages Paid Y			
Primary Injury	No. of Claims	Damages Paid	NHS Legal Costs Paid	Claimant Legal Costs Paid
EL	4,600	62,915,143	9,926,119	44,838,547
Orthopaedic Injuries	4,271	58,521,098	9,193,404	41,486,883
Head Injuries	162	2,563,882	459,851	2,032,924
Facial Injuries	94	1,168,556	108,522	714,194
Injuries to Internal Organs	52	300,175	83,511	321,138
Burns	6	45,958	#	22,033
Other	#	#	#	#
Scarring (Except Facial)	#	#	#	#
Psychiatric Damage	#	#	#	#
Injuries affecting the senses	#	#	#	#
PL	2,067	23,725,077	3,053,488	16,353,734
Orthopaedic Injuries	1,795	20,996,016	2,732,394	14,225,320
Head Injuries	121	1,570,505	131,536	1,183,666
Facial Injuries	109	635,852	95,402	500,777
Injuries to Internal Organs	15	150,373	15,355	98,023
Other	7	50,550	6,230	70,100
Scarring (Except Facial)	5	81,736	19,405	75,308
Fatality	#	#	#	#
Psychiatric Damage	#	#	#	#
Injuries affecting the senses	#	#	#	#
Damage	#	#	#	#
Unknown	#	#	#	#
Sickness/Disease	#	#	#	#
Fracture	#	#	#	#
Burns	#	#	#	#
Grand Total	6,667	86,640,220	12,979,608	61,192,281

Table 5: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with a damages payment, where the Liability Type is Employers' Liability or Public Liability, and any Cause relates to 'slips, trips, and falls'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure. Broken down by Litigation Status.

ClaimOutcome	Damages Paid
ClosedSettled	Y

Litigation Status	No. of Claims	Damages Paid	NHS Legal Costs Paid	Claimant Legal Costs
EL	4,600	62,915,143	9,926,119	44,838,547
No	2,470	18,281,802	381,626	9,488,481
Yes	2,130	44,633,341	9,544,493	35,350,066
PL	2,067	23,725,077	3,053,488	16,353,734
No	1,257	10,308,120	201,499	5,010,881
Yes	810	13,416,957	2,851,989	11,342,853
Grand Total	6,667	86,640,220	12,979,608	61,192,281

Table 6: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with NIL damages paid, where the Liability Type is Employers' Liability or Public Liability, and any Cause relates to 'slips, trips, and falls'. Broken down by Year of Closure.

ClaimOutcome	Nil Damages		
ClosedSettled	Y		

Year of Closure	No. of Claims	NHS Legal Costs Paid	Claimant Legal Costs Paid
EL	3,963	1,518,151	#
2015/16	495	55,420	11,676
2016/17	465	107,254	13,298
2017/18	460	146,400	8,490
2018/19	468	146,616	8,401
2019/20	435	219,266	6,250
2020/21	374	177,685	#
2021/22	320	113,098	5,894
2022/23	338	191,734	5,718
2023/24	309	158,350	6,675
PL	2,971	1,107,133	95,679
2015/16	383	82,978	15,990
2016/17	402	74,118	24,999
2017/18	336	80,114	9,110
2018/19	360	95,123	#
2019/20	318	110,170	14,221
2020/21	255	117,038	#
2021/22	218	173,029	#
2022/23	231	146,244	6,058
2023/24	240	85,356	#
2024/25	228	142,964	9,096

Table 7: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with NIL damages paid, where the Liability Type is Employers' Liability or Public Liability, and any Cause relates to 'slips, trips, and falls'. Broken down by Primary Injury.

ClaimOutcome ClosedSettled	Nil Damages Y		
Primary Injury	No. of Claims	NHS Legal Costs Paid	Claimant Legal Costs Paid
EL	3,963	1,518,151	#
Orthopaedic Injuries	3,695	1,468,899	72,286
Head Injuries	129	29,038	#
Facial Injuries	96	10,990	#
Injuries to Internal Organs	34	7,975	#
Injuries affecting the senses	#	#	#
Scarring (Except Facial)	#	#	#
Burns	#	#	#
PL	2,971	1,107,133	95,679
Orthopaedic Injuries	2,607	962,702	77,461
Head Injuries	159	47,227	11,079
Facial Injuries	146	22,524	#
Injuries to Internal Organs	36	13,853	#
Other	5	0	0
Injuries affecting the senses	#	#	#
Psychiatric Damage	#	#	#
Fatality	#	#	#
Injuries Involving Paralysis	#	#	#
Scarring (Except Facial)	#	#	#
Unknown	#	#	#
Damage	#	#	#
Sickness/Disease	#	#	#

Table 8: Number and Cost of LTPS Claims Closed between financial years '2015/16' and '2024/25' with NIL damages paid, where the Liability Type is Employers' Liability or Public Liability, and any Cause relates to 'slips, trips, and falls'. Broken down by Litigation Status.

ClaimOutcome	Nil Damages
ClosedSettled	Y

Litigation Status	No. of Claims	NHS Legal Costs Paid	Claimant Legal Costs Paid
EL	3,963	1,518,151	#
No	3,673	172,901	52,186
Yes	290	1,345,250	#
PL	2,971	1,107,133	95,679
No	2,740	158,401	57,441
Yes	231	948,732	38,239