



REQUEST 18025

1. How many assaults were reported against your council's housing staff (all housing officers + any other council staff who work directly with council housing tenants) in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, and in the first quarter of 2025?
2. For each of these years, how many of these assaults were verbal?
3. For each of these years, how many of these assaults were physical?
4. For each of these years, how many of these assaults were sexual?
5. For each of these years, how many of these assaults involved abuse related to a protected characteristic/hate speech?

RESPONSE

Please find below data requested.

Please note that the data only includes reported incidents where it has been clearly identifiable that the officer is working with council housing tenants either via their job title or by name of the team/service they work in.

There may be other incidents that have occurred that we have not been able to identify due to the fact that the job title or team/service recorded does not provide a clear indication that the officer was working directly with Council housing tenants.

To provide this level of information would require checking all forms on a manual basis (22,164 forms x 5 minutes per form = 1,847 hours) hours and requesting further information from the relevant team/service, which would exceed the time limit set for responding to FOI requests.

We are therefore applying Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which relieves a public authority from the obligation to comply with a request for information where the estimated time required to locate, review and extract the information exceeds a certain threshold set out in Regulations. Regulation 4(4) further provides that where the local authority estimates the time taken to gather the information would exceed this limit (which based on the prescribed hourly rate, equates to 18 officer hours), it may refuse the request under section 12 of FoIA.

Please note that the increase of incidents in recent years may in part be due to work done to ensure all incidents that occur are being reported.

Year	Total number of assaults	Number of verbal assaults	Number of physical assaults	Number of sexual assaults?	Number of assaults involving a protected characteristic
2016	0	0	0	0	0
2017	3	3	0	0	0
2018	7	7	0	0	0
2019	15	15	0	0	0
2020	6	6	0	0	0
2021	8	7	0	0	1
2022	6	4	1	1	0
2023	29	25	2	1	1
2024	21	14	6	0	1
2025 (January to March)	1	1	0	0	0