

24 January 2023

Children and Self-Harm

I would like the following information:

The number of children who have presented to the Emergency Department at the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children (RBHSC) having self-harmed or who have received treatment for self-harm each year since 2019, broken down by age.

The Self-harm Registry collects data on all presentations with self-harm for people aged 8 years and older. The following data has been extracted from the Self-harm Registry to provide a response to this enquiry:

In 2018/2019, 23 individuals attended RBHSC with self-harm.

In 2019/2020, 23 individuals attended with self-harm.

Some of these young people attended on more than one occasion.

It is not possible to give a further breakdown by age-bands due to the small numbers and the potential for this to identify individuals.

The information for years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 is not available, as the Self-harm Registry has not yet published it.