

**25 September 2025**

## **Abuse of adults with a learning disability**

### **1- How many allegations of abuse of adults with a learning disability in community settings from 2020- Present day**

2597 total Adult Safeguarding referrals from April 2020-March 2025. 1740 allegations of abuse of adults with a learning disability in a community setting from April 2020- March 2025.

*1740 community referrals*

*28 acute general hospital referrals*

*829 learning disability hospital referrals*

### **2- How many allegations of abuse of adults with a learning disability in an acute setting from 2020-present.**

28 allegations of abuse of adults with a learning disability in an acute general setting were reported from April 2020-March 2025.

### **3- In respect of question one - How many of the allegations were substantiated?**

Adult Safeguarding referral outcomes are not a requirement for SPPG Adult Safeguarding Returns, or Department Of Health reporting requirements. This data is not available from Encompass or Paris Digital Communication Information Systems. This would require an extensive manual retrieval of digital and paper records.

To undertake this exercise would necessitate a manual interrogation of data which would involve a significant number of hours. This would exceed the costs limit specified in the FOI act.

We estimate that compliance with this element of the request for information would exceed the appropriate costs limit. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information 2000, the limit has been specified as £450 and represents the estimated cost of one or more persons spending 18 hours in determining whether we hold the information, locating, retrieving and extracting this information.

### **4- In respect of question two - How many of the allegations were substantiated?**

Adult Safeguarding referral outcomes are not a requirement for SPPG Adult Safeguarding Returns, or Department Of Health reporting requirements. This data is

**25 September 2025**

not available from Encompass or Paris Digital Communication Information Systems.  
This would require an extensive manual retrieval of digital and paper records.

**5- For Question one - I would like a breakdown of the category of abuse for each allegation.**

**I expect the Belfast Trust will collate this to identity themes and trends.**

This cannot be broken down as requested. The data available equates to the total number of referrals received from April 2020-March 2025:

Physical Abuse 1472  
Psychological / Emotional Abuse 378  
Sexual Abuse 136  
Financial Abuse 123  
Neglect 378  
Exploitation 30  
Institutional Abuse 45  
\*note 35 referrals relates to no category of abuse

**6- For Question two - I would like a breakdown of the category of abuse for each allegation.**

**I expect the Belfast Trust will collate this to identity themes and trends.**

As noted in Qu 5 response.

**7- How many Adult Safeguarding Champions are there in the Belfast Trust?**

BHSCT has 1 Adult Safeguarding Champion representing the Trust. BHSCT continue to deliver Level 3 of the NIASP Training frameworking (2016) Nominated Adult Safeguarding Champion/Line Manager, for the reporting period 2024-25 – 466 staff were trained to level 3 within BHSCT.

**8- what are the names of the Adult Safeguarding Champions for the Belfast Trust ?**

Unable to provide this information due to confidentiality and GDPR. This information under FOI is exempt under S40 (2) Personal information relating to a third party.

**9- How many allegations of abuse of patients of Muckamore after they have been discharged from Muckamore. Provide figures for 2020-2025?**



**25 September 2025**

Once a patient has left Muckamore Adult Safeguarding data is not collated based upon previous location of residence or care & treatment. Therefore we are not able to provide this figure.

**10- Provide all Belfast Trust adult safeguarding monthly or annual reports that are presented to or made available to , the Board of the Belfast Trust from 2020-2025.**

Reports attached. Note 2024/25 Adult Safeguarding position report is not included as it has not been signed off through internal governance arrangements.