

13 January 2026

Sexual Safety Incidents in Belfast Trust premises since 1 Jan 2020 to date.

Q1. How many sexual safety incidents took place in trust premises since 1 Jan 2020 to date?

Belfast Health and Social Care Trust does not record incidents under the requested category of 'sexual safety incidents'. The broadly equivalent categorisation would be 'Inappropriate/Aggressive behaviour – Sexual (including harassment and indecent exposure)' and the total reported incidents is:

Total
2872

Note:

- The majority of these incidents arise in settings where care is provided to patients with an intellectual disability or mental ill health.
- The Belfast Trust is committed to ensuring all such incidents are recorded and responded to in line with its policies and procedures.
- A number of these incidents are allegations that, upon investigation, are proven to be unfounded.

Q2. Please provide a breakdown of the total provided in question 1 by calendar year

a) 2020	b) 2021	c) 2022	d) 2023	e) 2024	f) 2025 to date
208	332	376	799	762	395

Q3. Please provide a breakdown of the total provided in question 1 by type of sexual safety incident - e.g. a) rape, b) sexual assault etc.

Unable to respond as incidents are not captured using the terminology within the request.

Q4. Please provide a breakdown of the total provided in question 1 by age of victim in the following categories: a) under 18, b) 18-64 and c) 65 and over.

Unable to respond as date of birth not always recorded.

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Q5. Please provide a breakdown of the total provided in question 1 by status of the victim and perpetrator in the following categories:

- 1. Perpetrator was a staff member and victim was staff member**
- 2. Perpetrator was a member of the public (or patient) and victim was a member of the public (or patient)**
- 3. Perpetrator was a member of the public (or patient) and victim was a staff member**
- 4. Perpetrator was a staff member and victim was a member of the public (or patient)**

a)staff against staff	11
b)public/patient against public/patient	1221
c)public/patient against staff	1199
d)staff against public/patient	106
Others (Inappropriate/Aggressive Behaviour by a Patient towards an Object/Structure (Not self harm)	335

Q6. Please provide a breakdown of the total number of rapes since 1 Jan 2020 (i.e. the answer to 3.a) by the age of the rape victim in the following categories: a) under 18, b) 18-64 and c) 65 plus.

Unable to respond as incidents are not captured using the terminology within the request.

7. Does your trust have a dedicated policy to deal with sexual assault and harassment? If so please provide a copy of your trust’s written policy and if possible provide a date that the current policy was put in place.

The Belfast Trust does not have a dedicated policy to deal with sexual assault and harassment. This would be covered under the Conflict, Bullying and Harassment Policy (attached), which also covers other employee issues and concerns. The date of the policy is included in its cover sheet.