

26 August 2026

Social worker threats

Please provide the following information for each calendar year from 1 January 2020 to 21 July 2026, in relation to children's and adult social workers employed by your authority or working on behalf of the authority through an agency.

Where possible, please provide separate figures for children's and adult social care.

Overall picture

Please state the total number of children's social workers and adult social workers employed by the authority (or full-time equivalent where this is how staffing is recorded) as of 21 July 2026.

Numbers of Social workers as of 21 July 2026

Children's	Adults
508	684

Incident data

Please state the total number of recorded incidents where a social worker was subjected to violence, abuse, intimidation, harassment or threats in connection with their work.

Of those incidents, please provide the number recorded as involving:

1. Threats to kill.
2. Threats of serious physical violence.
3. Physical assaults.
4. Stalking or harassment.
5. Threats directed towards a social worker's home, family or personal property.
6. Criminal damage to a social worker's home, vehicle or personal property.
7. Online abuse, threats or harassment.

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Incidents are not captured within our incident reporting system under the types requested. Incident data has therefore been provided under the types within our system in the table below.

Please note that this data includes staff type: residential worker. This staff type includes both social workers and wider social care staff, and further breakdown is not possible.

Please also note that the data only includes incidents where staff have been included as named contacts.

	Physical contact (actual assault)	Physical threat (no contact)	Psychological abuse (bullying and harassment)	Sexual (including harassment and indecent exposure)	Verbal Abuse	Verbal with disability content	Verbal abuse with gender content	Verbal abuse with racial content
2020	93	23	6	7	14	0	0	<5
2021	143	50	10	5	21	0	0	0
2022	410	57	9	16	45	0	<5	<5
2023	672	133	17	24	53	<5	<5	<5
2024	784	95	7	41	59	0	<5	9
2025	694	114	<5	16	62	<5	0	10
2026 (up to 21 st July)	264	54	<5	<5	19	0	0	<5

We are unable to provide an exact figure where numbers are very low. To provide this level of information would reduce numbers to discoverable limits where the patients could be identifiable.

This is exempt from release under section 40(2) Personal Information relating to a third party, of the FOI Act.

Disclosure would constitute a breach of the principles of the Data Protection Act 2018.

Police involvement

Please provide:

8. The number of incidents reported to the police.

9. The number of incidents where the authority is aware that a suspect was arrested, charged or convicted.

Qu 8 & 9 - The Trust does not hold this information in a centrally recorded format. Therefore, under Section 1(1)(a) of the FOIA, this information is not held.

Impact on staff

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Please provide the number of incidents which resulted in:

- 10. The social worker being withdrawn from a case.**
- 11. The social worker being transferred or redeployed.**
- 12. Sickness absence linked to the incident.**
- 13. An occupational health referral.**
- 14. The authority introducing additional security measures for the member of staff (for example panic alarms, security escorts, home address protection, lone-working arrangements or similar measures).**

Qu 10 - 14 - The Trust does not hold this information in a centrally recorded format. Therefore, under Section 1(1)(a) of the FOIA, this information is not held.