

**Chief Executive's Office**  
**Freedom of Information**

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Ref.: 21-026  
Date: 16 February 2021

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) 2002**

Thank you for your email, dated 22 January, where you requested information through the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Please find below responses to the questions you raised.

**Do you provide access to an Independent Domestic Abuse Advisor?**

Not Independent to the NHS, however the NHS Dumfries and Galloway Public Protection Team provide an advice line Monday–Friday 9-5pm for all NHS staff on all matters relating to public protection, including violence against women and girls (VAWAG). Out with these hours staff would contact the Out of Hours Social Work Team for advice and support

**If yes, do you provide access to an IDAA at every hospital site?**

Not in person, but support by phone as above.

**Do you employ a domestic abuse specialist nurse?**

The Nurse Consultant for Public Protection has responsibility for VAWAG within the organisation and there are two designated Public Protection Advisors who have VAWAG agenda as a specific remit within their role

If yes, do you employ a domestic abuse specialist nurse at every hospital site?

Not applicable

**Do you have a Domestic Abuse policy?**

No This is on the agenda to be revisited.

If yes, please provide a copy.

**Do you produce an annual safeguarding report on domestic abuse?**

No, the NHS Dumfries and Galloway Public Protection Advisors with responsibility for VAWAG contribute to the multiagency VAWAG Group.

**Do you conduct internal audits to ensure compliance to the domestic abuse policy?**

Not applicable currently

**Have you conducted training for staff on domestic abuse in the last 12 months. If no, in the last 24 months?**

Prior to COVID, NHS staff could access the face-to-face multiagency training on Domestic Abuse. Staff can access on line domestic violence training.

More recently, all staff, via managers, have been directed to the Safer Lives website as a resource and encouraged to undertake the online DAART training and the online NES training on Trauma Informed Practice.

**How many domestic abuse, stalking and harassment (DASH) risk assessments were completed by the trust/health board in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020?**

We have no data available and are therefore unable to answer this question; therefore this request is refused under section 17 of FOISA

**How many domestic abuse, stalking and harassment (DASH) referrals were made by the trust/health board to a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020?**

Data is only available between October 2017 and December 2020 during which time there were no health referrals made.

Under section 20 (1) of the Act, if you are dissatisfied with the way NHS Dumfries and Galloway has dealt with your request, you have a right to request a review of our actions and decisions in relation to your request, and you have a right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

A request for review must be made within forty working days from 16 February 2021 and should, in the first instance, be in writing to Jeff Ace, Chief Executive, NHS Dumfries and Galloway, Ground Floor North, Mountainhall Treatment Centre, Bankend Road, Dumfries DG1 4AP or by e-mail to [dg.feedback2@nhs.scot](mailto:dg.feedback2@nhs.scot). You must provide your name, an address for correspondence, details of your original request and why you want a review.

If our decision is unchanged following review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you have the right to make a formal appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner. Requests for appeal should be made in writing to the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS, telephone 01334 464610, fax 01334 464611 or email: [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info)

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Officer