# NORTHUMBERLAND, TYNE AND WEAR NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**Meeting Date:** 27 January 2016

**Title and Author of Paper:** NHS SMS: National Reported Physical Assaults 2014/2015
Author of Paper in response to this report: Tony Gray, Head of Safety and Security

**Paper for Debate, Decision or Information**: Information and Debate

**Key Points to Note:**

- National data was published on Thursday 19th November 2015.
- Nationally there were 67,864 physical assaults recorded for the period April 2014 – March 2015 in comparison to 68,683 assaults recorded for period April 2013 – March 2014 a decrease of 819 nationally.
- There were 45,220 assaults recorded in mental health trusts for the period April 2014 – March 2015 in comparison to 47,184 assaults recorded in mental health trusts for period April 13 – March 14 a decrease of 1,964.
- NTW reported 3,576 assaults for the period April 2014 – March 2015, in comparison to 3,335 for the period April 2013 – March 2014 an increase of 241 assaults
- NTW has reported the highest number of physical assaults within mental health.
- NTW has the 3rd highest physical assault rate per 1,000 staff, with 600 assaults per 1,000 staff, this is behind Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust with 703 assaults per 1,000 staff and Calderstones Partnership NHS Foundation Trust with 1,352 assaults per 1,000 staff.
- **Whilst not available in the national data, the 3,576 physical assaults by actual harm breakdown as follows, 930 no harm (26%) (but still fit the criteria as contact made), 2,365 minor harm (66%), and 281 were moderate harm (8%). For the first time in 11 years there have been no major harm incidents, and none of these assaults were investigated as serious incidents.**
- There were 40 sanctions reported in which Police have been involved in the assaults, this is an increase on the 25 the previous year. The Police were contacted 108 times for assaults that were not including clinical factors.
- Activity for NTW by each of the clinical groups has been included as graphical information to show how the Trust activity forms the national picture.
- This report also contains information specific to the CCG's of the patients who commit the assaults to give the reflective local and national variation.
- **30% of assaults created by 12 patients, who had created more than 50 assaults each.**
- **1 elderly patient created 244 assaults in our challenging behaviour ward.**
- **620 assaults, 16.5% of the total occurred on our elderly challenging behaviour ward.**
- **619 patients created assaults within the Trust out of a total population of over 73,000 patients who received care between April 2014 and March 2015, accounting for less than 1% of the patients we provides services to assaulting staff.**

**Outcome required:** Minuted by Board of Directors, Greater emphasis in Directorates to record outcomes of physical assaults when Police are involved in the incident, and to work in partnership with the Trust LSMS and Clinical Police Liaison Lead.

Introduction

NHS Protect has policy and operational responsibility for the management of security in the NHS. This includes tackling physical and non-physical assault against staff.

As part of this responsibility there is a requirement to report all physical and non-physical assaults to them on an annual basis. To do this each Trust must check their violent incidents to ensure that they fall into the following definitions:-

Physical Assault – The intentional application of force to the person of another, without lawful justification resulting in physical injury or personal discomfort.

Non-Physical Assault – The use of inappropriate words or behaviour causing distress and / or constituting harassment.

NHS Protect – Published Figures

The table below gives a comparison of the published figures for the last four years.

| | 2011/ 12 | 2012/13 | 2013/14 | 2014/15 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Type of Trust | Number of Physical Assaults | Number of Physical Assaults | Number of Physical Assaults | Number of Physical Assaults |
| Ambulance | 1,630 | 1,397 | 1,868 | 1,861 |
| Acute | 15,536 | 16,475 | 17,900 | 19,167 |
| Primary Care | 1,540 | 0 | 1,731 | 1,616 |
| **MH & LD** | **41,038** | **43,699** | **47,184** | **45,220** |
| Special HAs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 59,744 | 61,571 | 68,683 | 67,864 |

Mental Health & Learning Disability Trust specific information

The following table gives a breakdown of the differences in violence against staff over the last 4 years from the highest reporting Trusts. From these figures it can been seen that NTW is the highest reporter of physical assaults on staff within a mental health setting in 2014/15
We have seen increasing assaults being recorded at the same time as acuity levels are going up, and we manage more complex patients within our care.

| | 2011/12 | 2012/ 13 | 2013/ 14 | 2014/15 | + / - |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Trust | Total Assaults | Total Assaults | Total Assaults | Total Assaults | |
| Northumberland, Tyne & Wear NHS Foundation Trust | 2,198 | 3,272 | 3,335 | 3,576 | +241 |
| Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust | 2,202 | 1,780 | 2,540 | 2,903 | +363 |
| Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust | 1,594 | 1,930 | 2,731 | 1,627 | -1,104 |
| Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust | 1,467 | 1,430 | 1,363 | 1,422 | +59 |
| Calderstones Partnership NHS Foundation Trust | 866 | 1,176 | 1,195 | 1,405 | +210 |
| Central & North West London NHS Foundation Trust | 1,050 | 1,267 | 1,259 | 1,349 | +90 |
| Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust | 912 | 1,238 | 1,220 | 1,272 | +52 |
| Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust | 1,173 | 1,192 | 1,190 | 1,253 | +63 |
| Rotheram, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust | 1,074 | 1,194 | 1,070 | 1,250 | +180 |
| Leeds Partnership NHS Foundation Trust | 1,164 | 1,506 | 1,275 | 1,243 | -32 |

2014 / 15 Information

The following table indicates the assault rates when assaults per 1000 staff is applied to Trusts declared total staff as at 31st March 2015.

| Trust | Total Assaults | Declared total staff | Assaults per 1000 staff | Declared Sanctions |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Calderstones Partnership NHS Foundation Trust | 1,405 | 1,039 | **1,352** | 51 |
| Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust | 2,903 | 4,129 | **703** | 1 |
| Northumberland, Tyne & Wear NHS Foundation Trust | 3,576 | 5,959 | **600** | 40 |
| Rotheram, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust | 1,250 | 3,653 | **342** | 2 |
| Bradford District Care Trust | 1,002 | 2,956 | **339** | 0 |

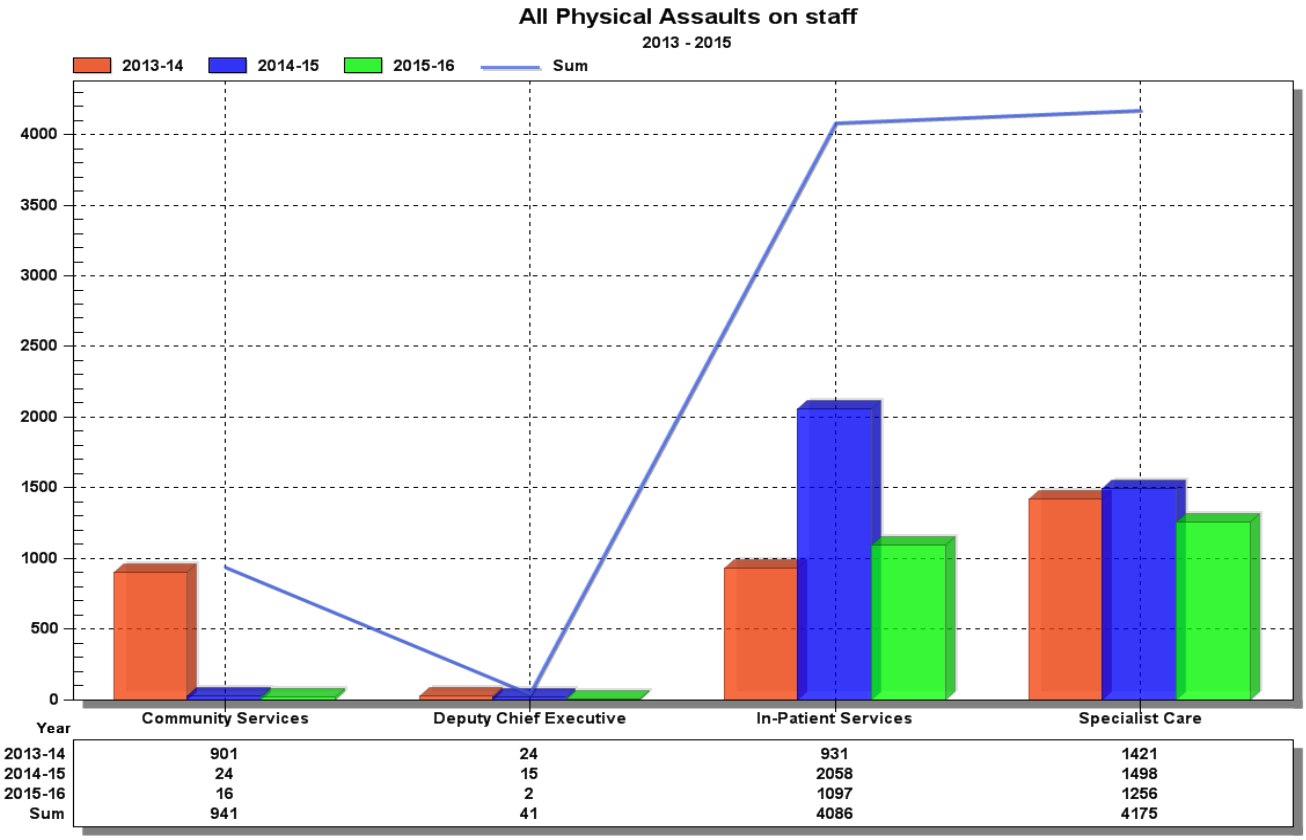
When considering the physical assaults on staff against staff numbers the above table indicates that NTW NHS FT is 3rd in relation to assaults per 1,000 staff, this is the denominator used by NHS Protect to give a basic form of comparison relating to sizes of organisation.

When looking at the actual activity reported for NTW NHS FT, the following tables breakdown the activity within the Trust by Directorates.

The figures for this graph will differ slightly to the reported figures above, due to the fact that after the national audit of data completeness our national figure reduced by 19 assaults ( the Trust was not audited, we have previously attained 100% compliance when audited).

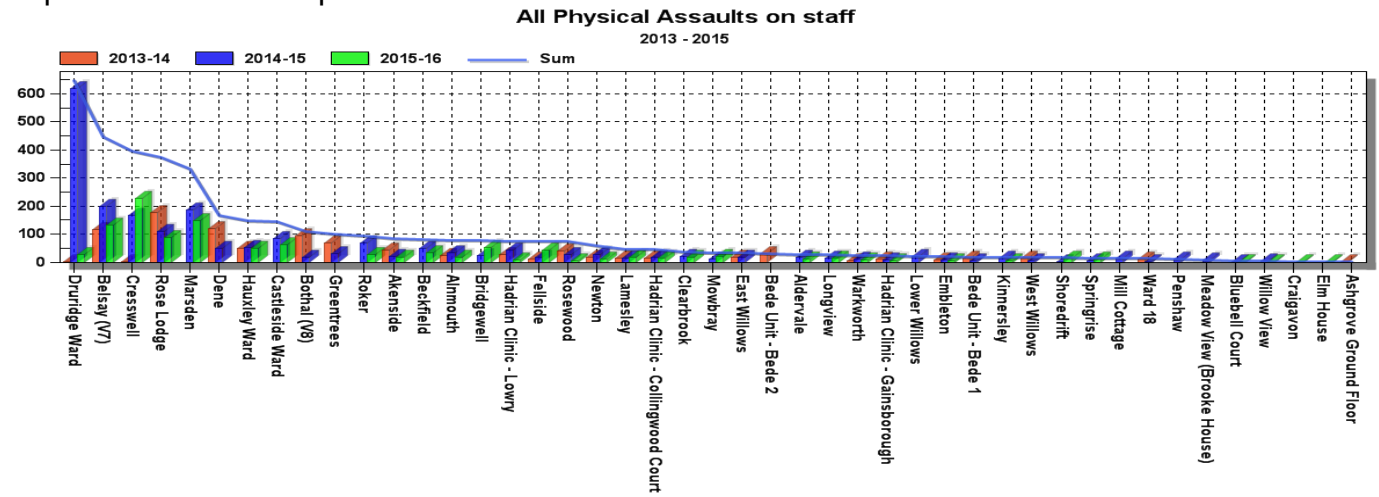
The following graph indicates the transition through the clinical groups in 2014 /15 with all in-patient services moving from what was Planned Care into what was Urgent Care ( now In-Patient Services). Specialist Care increased by 77 assaults or just over 1 per week throughout 2014 / 15. Year to date figures for 2015 /16 have been included for the first time as we can now give an accurate representation of the Trust activity after fully implementing web based reporting, and can predict what next years national figures will look like based on activity in the system up until this report was produced on the 17th November 2015. Whilst In-patient services are likely to be less than the previous year, Specialist Care are likely to be higher based on activity that has already been reported is approaching the previous full year's figure.

Graph 1 – Annual National Comparison for 2013 - 2016 for NTW



The following graphs give a view of the historical physical assaults and the high reporting areas, It can be seen that in 2015 / 16 the current data indicates a significant reduction in physical assaults with a predicted end of year reporting period based on current activity of around 1,800 assaults on staff in comparison to the 2,058 reported in 2014 /15.

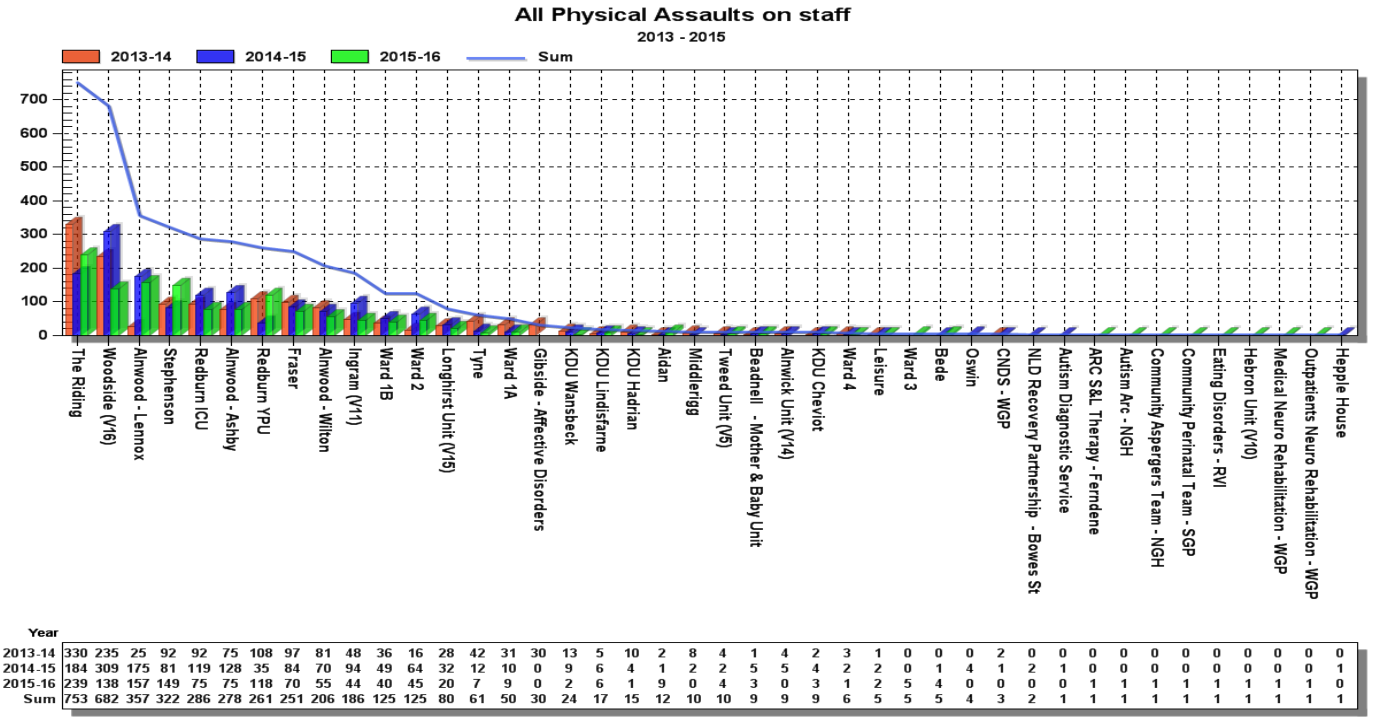
Graph 2 – Annual Comparison for In-Patient Services 2013 - 2016




| Year | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2013-14 | 3 | 116 | 1 | 176 | 0 | 120 | 48 | 0 | 94 | 69 | 0 | 43 | 0 | 25 | 0 | 27 | 12 | 41 | 19 | 15 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 31 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 10 | 0 | 7 | 15 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 2014-15 | 620 | 199 | 168 | 111 | 185 | 48 | 51 | 83 | 16 | 31 | 67 | 22 | 48 | 34 | 25 | 42 | 19 | 27 | 28 | 13 | 18 | 22 | 12 | 16 | 0 | 16 | 13 | 10 | 8 | 22 | 9 | 4 | 14 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 15 | 3 | 11 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2015-16 | 26 | 133 | 228 | 87 | 147 | 0 | 48 | 62 | 0 | 0 | 27 | 19 | 32 | 19 | 52 | 7 | 44 | 6 | 11 | 18 | 13 | 16 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 14 | 9 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 14 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| Sum | 649 | 448 | 397 | 374 | 332 | 168 | 147 | 145 | 110 | 100 | 94 | 84 | 80 | 78 | 77 | 76 | 75 | 74 | 58 | 46 | 45 | 38 | 33 | 32 | 31 | 28 | 27 | 24 | 23 | 22 | 20 | 19 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 11 | 8 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

Graph 3 – Annual Comparison for Specialist Care Services 2013 - 2016

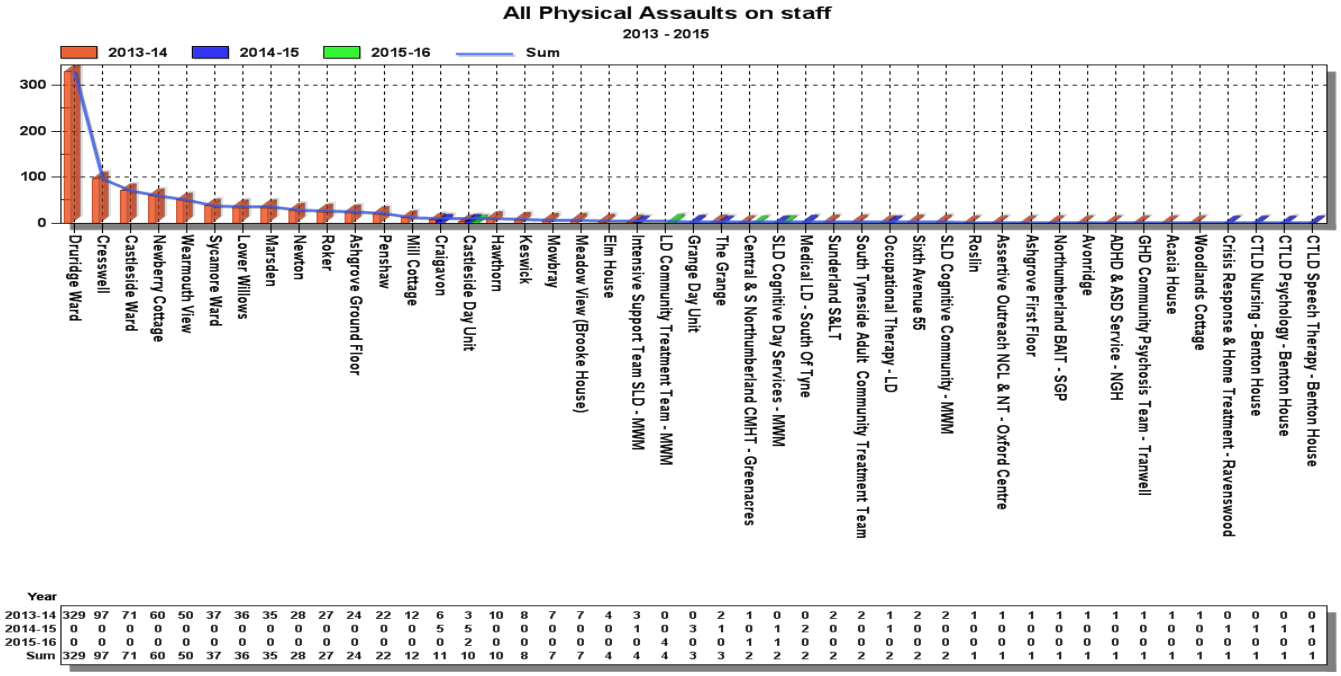
The following graphs give a view of the historical physical assaults and the high reporting areas, It can be seen that in 2015 / 16 the current data indicates a an increase in physical assaults this year, as the services have already reported 1,256 assaults by November 15 in comparison to 1,498 for the whole of 2014/15.




| Year | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2013-14 | 330 | 235 | 25 | 92 | 92 | 75 | 108 | 97 | 81 | 48 | 36 | 16 | 28 | 42 | 31 | 30 | 13 | 5 | 10 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 2014-15 | 184 | 309 | 175 | 81 | 119 | 128 | 35 | 84 | 70 | 94 | 49 | 64 | 32 | 12 | 10 | 0 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 2015-16 | 239 | 138 | 157 | 149 | 75 | 75 | 118 | 70 | 55 | 44 | 40 | 45 | 20 | 7 | 9 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Sum | 753 | 682 | 357 | 322 | 286 | 278 | 261 | 251 | 206 | 186 | 125 | 125 | 80 | 61 | 50 | 30 | 24 | 17 | 15 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Graph 4 – Annual Comparison for Community Services 2013 – 2016

The following graphs give a view of the historical physical assaults that were recorded in Planned Care Services when they had in-patient service and the high reporting areas. It can be seen that in 2014 / 15 and currently in 2015 /1 6 the current data indicates a significant decrease in physical assaults in Community Services however the Trust continues with its roll out of Identicom lone working devices, and will have 1,600 staff provided with them by December 2015.



Specific information relating to residency of patients who create physical assaults on staff

Due to the services that are provided by the Trust which include both locally commissioned by the 7 Clinical Commissioning Groups as well as regional and national services commissioned by NHS England, it is acknowledged that not all assaults, and indeed the nationally published information, can be compared like for like to other organisations.

The following is a breakdown of the residency of the patients who created assaults on staff in 2014/15, this is presumed that the CCG residency recorded in the clinical record, is the CCG that commissions the care, there is significant development work to complete in this area to ensure that this is accurate information. This will be built into 2016 /17 plans to quality check the records that produce physical assault information and the CCG activity that automatically populates the record from the electronic healthcare record.

Local CCG

| CCG | Number of Assaults | % of total |
|---|---|---|
| **NHS GATESHEAD CCG** | **99** | **2.7%** |
| **NHS NEWCASTLE NORTH AND EAST CCG** | **242** | **6.7%** |
| **NHS NEWCASTLE WEST CCG** | **237** | **6.6%** |
| **NHS NORTH TYNESIDE CCG** | **84** | **2.2%** |
| **NHS NORTHUMBERLAND CCG** | **1619** | **45.3%** |
| **NHS SOUTH TYNESIDE CCG** | **106** | **3%** |
| **NHS SUNDERLAND CCG** | **450** | **12.5%** |
| **Total Assaults for Local CCG's** | **2837** | **79% of total assaults** |
| **Total Assaults for all other CCG's / Healthcare Commissioners** | **739** | **21% of total assaults** |
| **Total Assaults** | **3576** | **100%** |