



People for Proper Policing in North Wales

Violence and Aggression against NHS staff

The following information is from the Trust's website FOI section and indicates only **part of the cost of NOT PROPERLY POLICING** Ysbyty Gwynedd, one of our three main Hospitals

Provisions have been put in place to prevent such incidents since 2004

- The Trust has a robust policy in place for the management of patients and others presenting unacceptable behaviour which staff are encouraged to adhere to at all times.
- Violence and Aggression risk assessment process as part of the All Wales Violence and Aggression Training Passport and Information Scheme. The Trust has a dedicated risk assessment unit with offices in Caernarvon. Currently they are leading the extended CCTV program
- The development of our training resources to ensure that all staff are catered for in respect of receiving instruction, training and support for the management of violence and aggression.
- Security surveys and audits undertaken of Trust premises
- Dedicated electronic system for lone workers.
- On-going upgrading and expansion of CCTV systems
- Allocation of resources for **the recruitment of a Security Manager.**

Training – We have provided an **annual budget of £244,009 for Violence and Aggression training within the Trust.**

Security - The Trust works in partnership with North Wales Police to have an on site **Community Beat Manager based at Ysbyty Gwynedd site. Cost to the Trust - £20,000.**

Security -The Trust has allocated resources to the post of Security Manager - **£38 211/annum**

The PPP comments WE REPEAT YET AGAIN ... CCTV footage of crimes being committed is not what we need we need prevention and deterrence by an effective police presence. This is an expensive (£500k+/annum) classic example of treating the symptoms of a problem. In addition there is the cost of traumatised staff's lost time and efficiency. The installation cost of CCTV and it's monitoring and data collection, sorting, filing etc. The same FOI files also gave us some idea of the extent of the problem which we have summarised below :-

Financial Year 2007/08

326 assault incidents have been recorded for the period, of which **277 (85%) incidents occurred in the Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Directorate**

No injury was recorded for 198 (61%) incidents. An injury was recorded for the remaining 128 incidents with the most frequent type of injury recorded being a scratch, with a total of 41 (13%) of the total incidents, and a bruise, with a total of 41 (13%) of the total incidents.

A total of 6 (1.8%) incidents were recorded as being major for the financial year, with a total of 291 (89%) incidents being reported as insignificant or minor incidents. **27 incidents were reported as moderate.**

A hospital is a centre for a range of other traumas including victims of violence and abuse, road incident casualties, drink and drug abuse and various types of self harm.

Many of these will involve some form of criminal activity real or potential. The population of a main Hospital including, medical, service and support staff and patients, amounts to several thousand people and must justify a significant permanent Police presence. These officers would be based in office accommodation within the Hospital with a bleeper fast response system. Existing CCTV would also be available to them as would links to the fire and ambulance services. Ysbyty Gwynedd is close to the centre of Bangor and to the A55 where a fast police response might be needed. I.e the priority may be within or local to the Hospital.

Ysbyty Glan Clwyd is just off the A55 and within a few miles of the St Asaph HQ of NWPF, the hospital makes an excellent base for Police Officers who can carry out almost any work as effectively as in the HQ via modern communication/information systems.