

NHS Workforce Race Equality Standard (WRES) Annual Report 2025

Working in partnership

The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust
Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust



Care Colleagues
Collaboration Communities

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Introduction

- The Workforce Race Equality Standard (WRES) was launched in 2016 and aimed to improve the workplace and career experiences of our ethnically diverse workforce (Black and Minority Ethnic - BME) colleagues in the NHS.
- The Workforce Race Equality Standard is a set of nine specific measures that will enable NHS organisations to compare the experiences of our ethnically diverse and White staff. This report provides an overview of key areas and supports us in identifying direct actions to demonstrate progress against the indicators of Race equality
- The Equality and Diversity Council has commissioned the Workforce Race Equality Standard. It is mandated through the NHS Standard Contract.
- Metrics 5,6,7 & 8 are based on staff survey results. As a Trust, we facilitate a full census from all staff; the 2024 staff survey had 33.72% staff participation across the Trust which is a 7% increase on the previous year.
- At The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust, we have a workforce of 11,815 staff. Our Electronic Staff Record (ESR) data shows that 37.9% of our workforce has declared themselves as ethnicities other than white. 1.9% of the workforce has not declared their race status.

The data sets in this report compare the experience of Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) staff to White staff.

Executive Summary (1 / 2)

Embedding an inclusive culture where diversity is valued and therefore championed at all levels is essential to delivering high-quality services to patients (better patient care, satisfaction and outcomes) and developing a capable, innovative and effective workforce for our future at Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust.

Research shows that organisations that have diverse leadership are more successful and innovative. Staff who feel valued are more likely to be engaged with their work, and senior-level diversity increases productivity and efficiency in the workplace.

Key findings for 2024:

- Our Black & Minority Ethnic (BME) representation is 37.9%, this is a 0.4% improvement on our 2023 data (37.5%).
- Relative likelihood of white candidates being appointed from shortlisting compared to BME applicants, the rate for 2025 is 1.5, this is a slight improvement from last year (1.6)
- Relative likelihood of BME staff entering the formal disciplinary process compared to white staff - The Trust's latest rate is 0.7, this has seen an improvement since 2024 (1.2).
- Relative likelihood of white staff accessing non-mandatory training and continuing professional development (CPD) compared to BME staff - The Trust's latest rate is 1.05; in 2024 the figure was 1.42.
- Percentage of staff experiencing harassment, bullying or abuse from patients, relatives or the public in the last 12 months - Percentage rates for BME (23.4%) and white staff (20%), these figures have declined since last year for BME (21.1 %) and remained the same for and white staff (20 %)

Executive Summary (2 / 2)

- Percentage of BME staff experiencing harassment, bullying or abuse from other staff in the last 12 months has declined for our staff overall. Percentage rates for BME 28.5% (25.3% in 2024) and for our white staff 24% (23.7% in 2024).
- Percentage of staff believing that their trust provides equal opportunities for career progression or promotion - The percentage rate has decreased slightly for BME staff (2025, 47.7% from 48.9% in 2024). This is also reflected more so in our White staff scores (2025, 61%, 64.5% in 2024).
- Percentage of staff that personally experienced discrimination at work from a manager, team leader or other colleagues – There is an increase in both BME and white staff scores; BME 17.5%, White 7.6% (2023 BME 15.3%, White 7.1%)
- Board Membership including non-executive members representation is 14.39% increased from 10% in 2024

We are committed to being a more inclusive organisation, ensuring equal opportunity and celebrating diversity. Encouraging and supporting the workforce we employ to reach their potential. This will support our ultimate goal to be a brilliant place to work and thrive.

During 2023 / 2024, we have achieved the following:

- Continuing to review our progress and delivery against statutory requirements and beyond, i.e. public sector equality duty, as well as a set of more ambitious objectives for embedding equality and inclusion across the organisation through both the response to WRES, WDES, Gender pay gap, Race Code and the NHS People Plan.
- Developed a joint working strategy with Walsall NHS Trust, we have made our civility and respect training mandatory across the Trust with a 95% completion rate, have developed a behavioural framework and have started to roll out a managers essentials course for those line managers who have never received any kind of management training.



Annual Submission Measures

The Workforce Race Equality Standard is a set of nine specific measures which enable NHS organisations to compare the workplace and career experiences of ethnically diverse staff (Black and Minority Ethnic- BME) and White staff.

The Measures provide high-level view, we have therefore completed a more detailed analysis to inform our conclusions and actions plans.

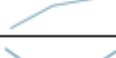
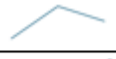
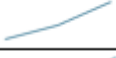
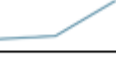
Workforce Race Equality Standard Metrics:

1. Workforce Representation
2. Recruitment
3. Disciplinary
4. Training and Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
5. Harassment, Bullying and Abuse from Patients / Public
6. Harassment, Bullying and Abuse from staff
7. Career Progression
8. Discrimination
9. Board Representation



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Workforce Race Equality Standard (WRES) Overview

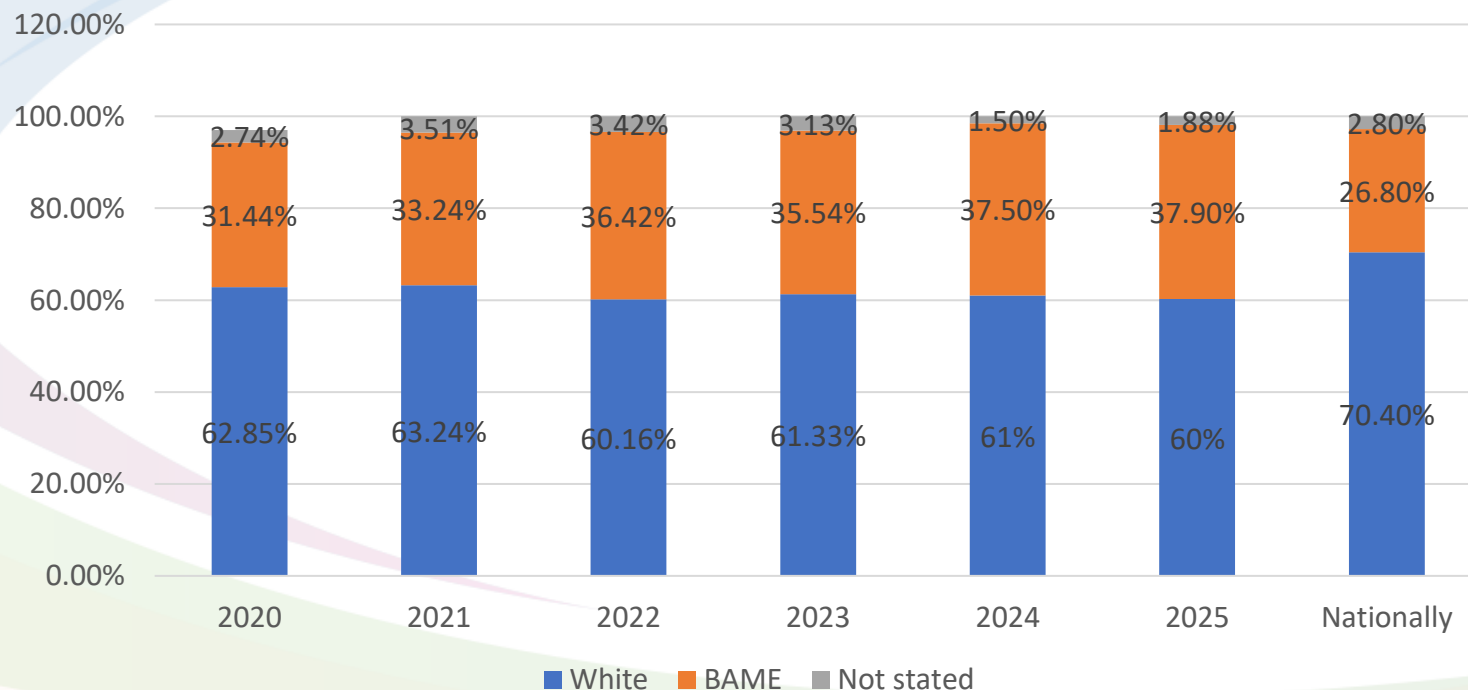
	WRES Indicator		2023	2024	2025	Trend
1	Percentage of Black & minority ethnic staff	Overall	35.7	37.5	37.9	
2	Relative likelihood of white applicants being appointed from shortlisting across all posts compared to bame applicants		1.41	0.9	1.5	
3	Relative likelihood of BAME staff entering the formal disciplinary process compared to white staff		2.09	1.2	0.7	
4	Relative likelihood of white staff accessing non-mandatory training and continuous professional development (CPD) compared to BAME staff		1.03	1.42	1.05	
5	percentage of staff experiencing harassment, bullying and abuse from patients, relatives or public in the last 12 months	White	22	20	20	
		BAME	24.2	21	23.4	
6	Percentage of staffing experiencing harassment, bullying or abuse from staff in the last 12 months	White	22.8	23.7	24	
		BAME	28.7	25.3	28.5	
7	Percentage of staff believing that the Trust provides equal opportunities for career progression or promotion	White	64.1	64.5	61	
		BAME	46.3	48.9	47.7	
8	Percentage of staff personally experiencing discrimination at work from a manager/team leader or other colleague	White	6.8	7.1	7.6	
		BAME	15.1	15.3	17.5	
9	BAME Board Membership	Overall	Currently sits at 14.39% with an aim to be at 20% by 2028			



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Metric 1 & 9 – Overall Ethnic Representation

Percentage of Staff by Ehtnicity 2024

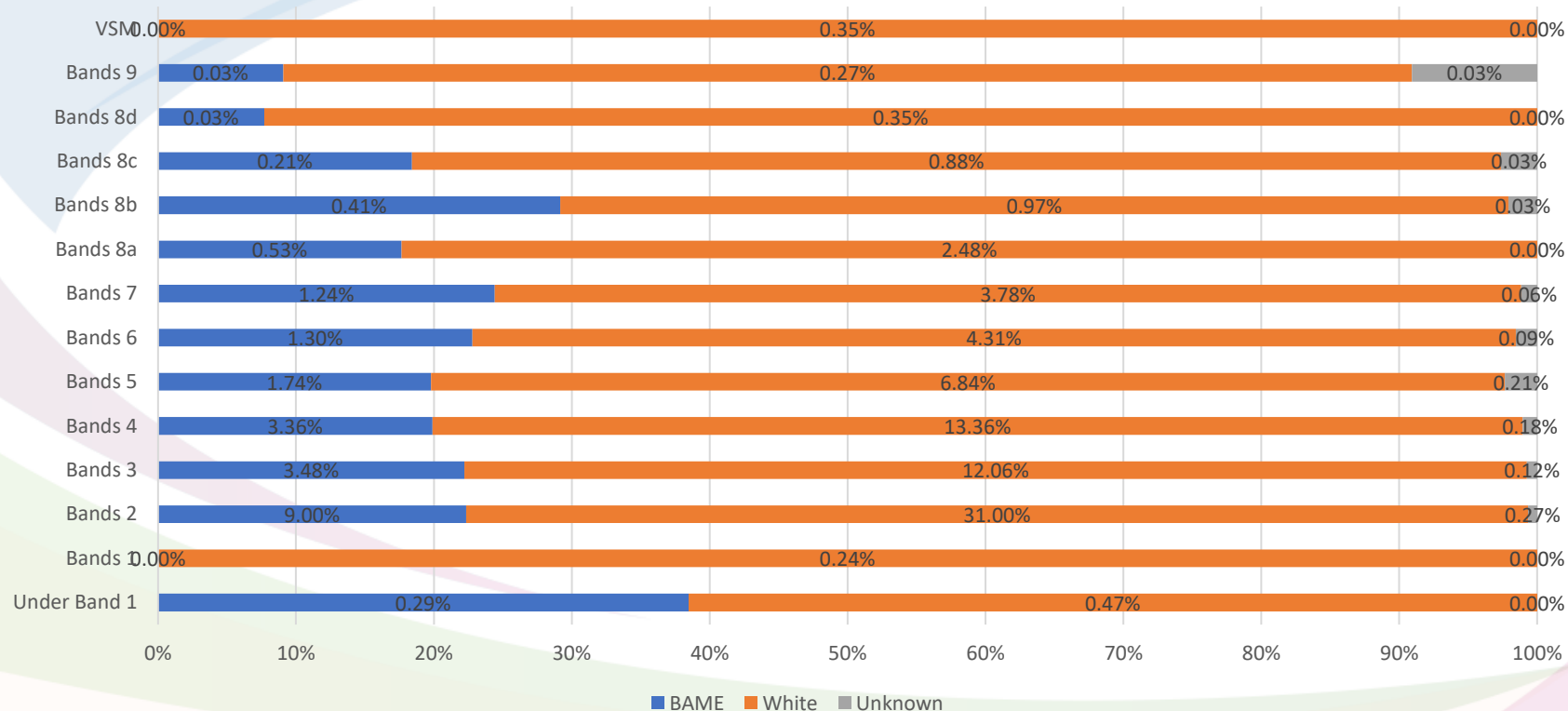


Board member representation – Is currently 14.39% BAME, this compares to a total BAME workforce representation of 37.8%

BAME = Black and Minority Ethnic

Metric 1 – Non-Clinical Banding Comparison 2023 - 2024

AfC Bands: non-clinical (percentage representation)

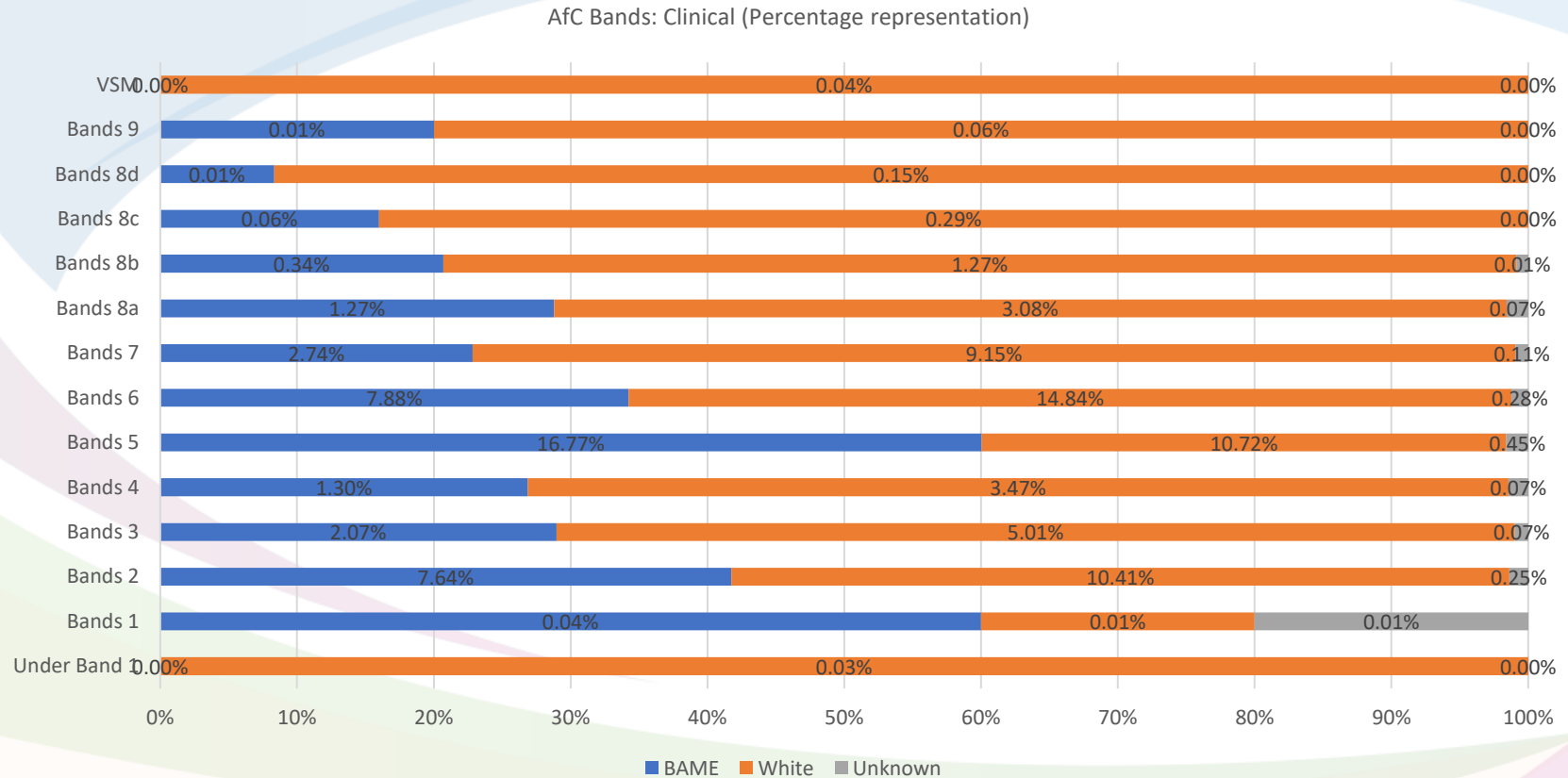


VSM – Very Senior Manager

AfC - Agenda for Change

BAME – Black and Minority Ethnic

Metric 1 – Clinical Banding Comparison 2022 - 2023



VSM - Very Senior Manager

AfC - Agenda for Change

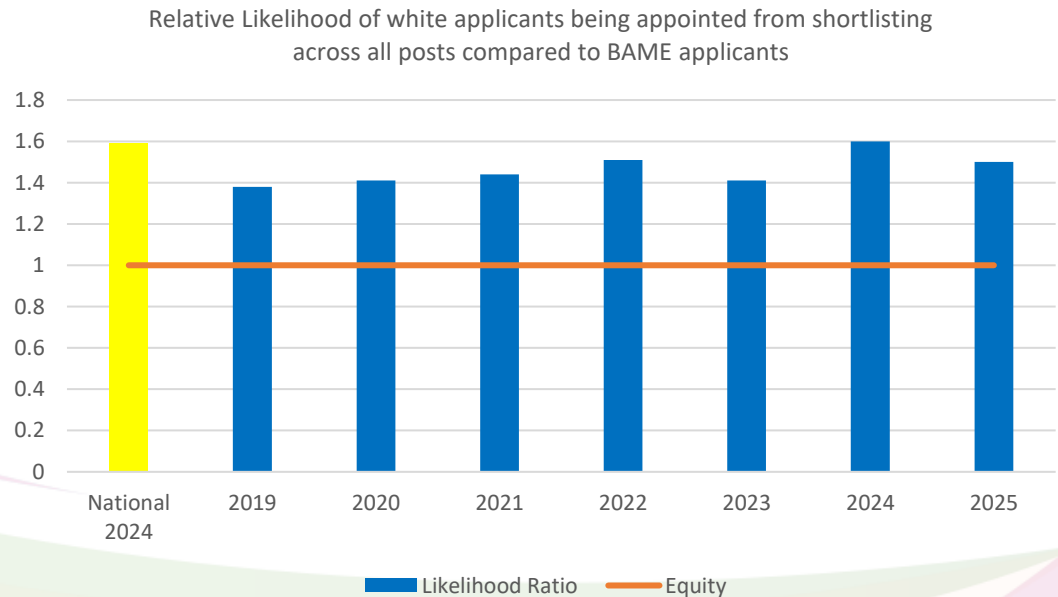
BAME – Black and Minority Ethnic

Metric 2 - Relative likelihood of white applicants being appointed from shortlisting across all posts compared to ethnically diverse applicants shown here as BAME

This table shows the differences from 2019 through to the 2025 submissions for metrics 2

The Trust's latest rate is 1.5, which is slightly above the previous year but now sits below the 2024 national average of 1.59.

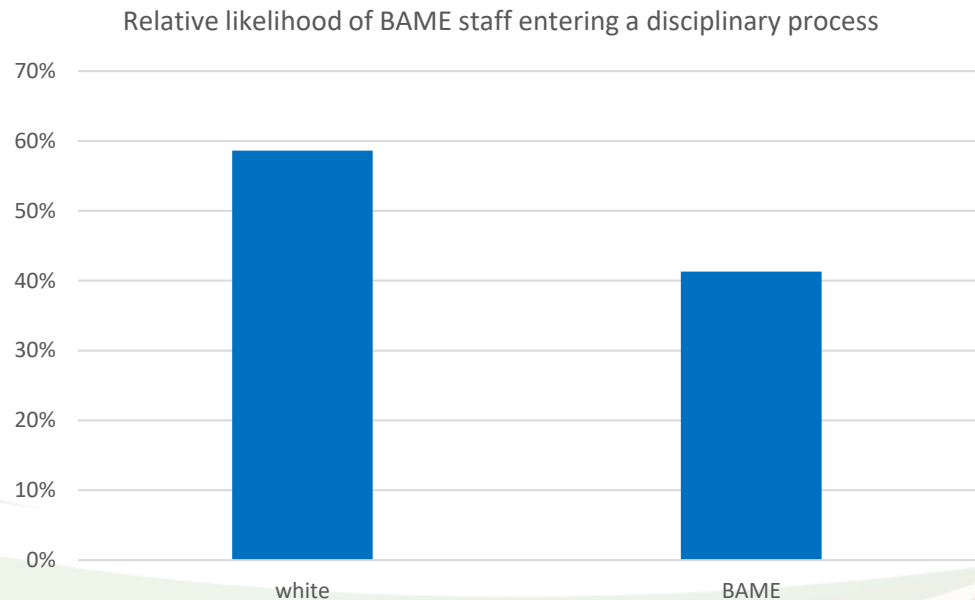
Even though our overall ethnically diverse workforce continues to be above equity, the submission will show representation at each band for both clinical and non-clinical staff and highlight underrepresentation at more senior levels and particularly at board level.



Metric 3 - The relative likelihood of ethnically diverse staff entering the formal disciplinary process compared to white staff

A figure above 1:00 indicates that ethnically diverse staff are more likely than White staff to enter the formal disciplinary process.

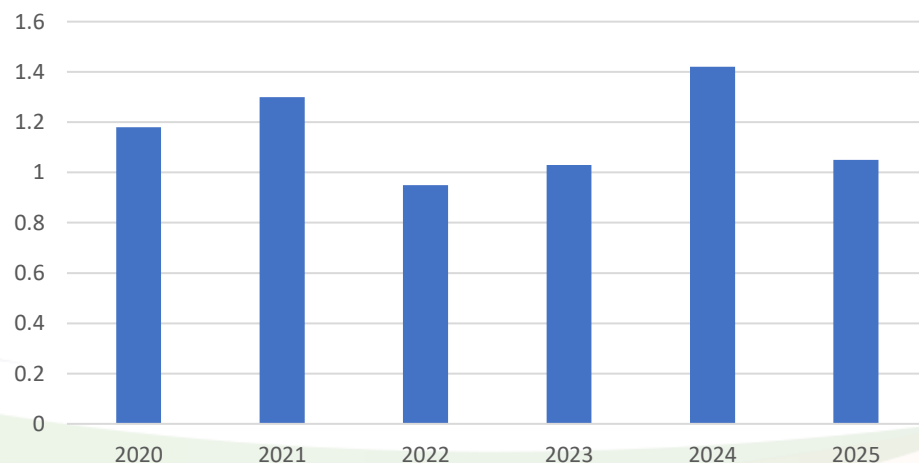
The likelihood of ethnically diverse staff entering the formal disciplinary process has improved as the relative likelihood for 24/25 is 0.7, in the previous year it was 1.3.



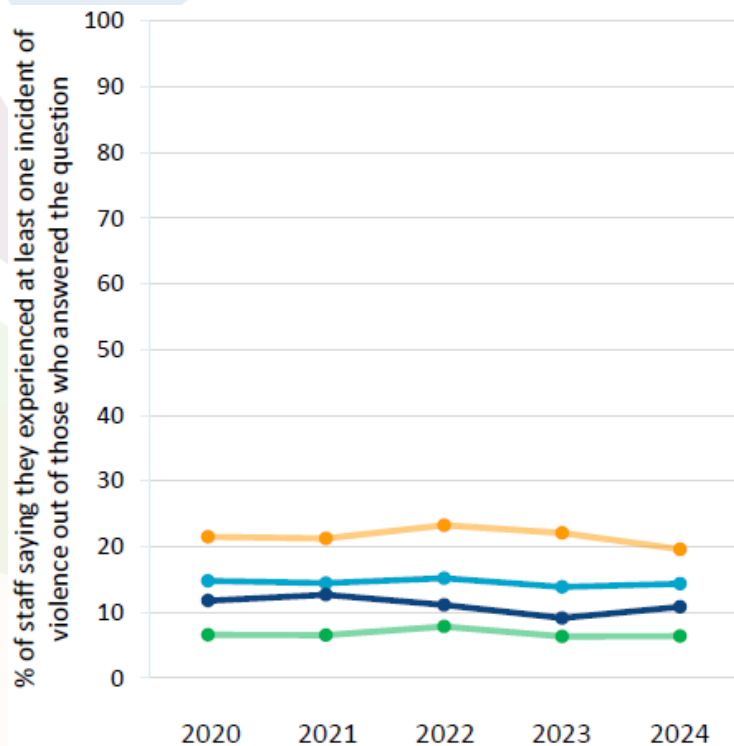
Metric 4 - The relative likelihood of white staff accessing non-mandatory training and continuing professional development (CPD) compared to ethnically diverse staff shown here as BAME

A value of 1.0 would indicate equal rates of opportunity; the Trust's latest rate has increased in 2025 to 1.05 from 1.42 in 2024

Relative likelihood of white staff accessing non-mandatory training and continuous professional development (CPD) compared to BAME staff

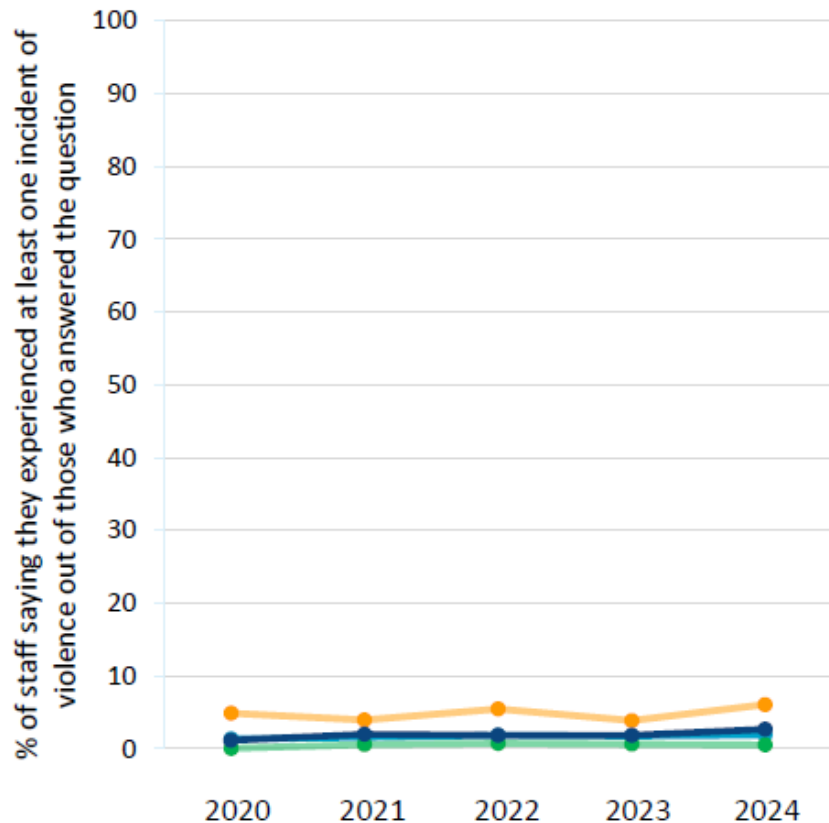


Metric 5 - The percentage of staff experiencing harassment, bullying or abuse from patients, relatives or the public in last 12 months



	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Your org	11.80%	12.69%	11.13%	9.15%	10.83%
Best result	6.62%	6.53%	7.85%	6.35%	6.38%
Average result	14.79%	14.47%	15.22%	13.88%	14.37%
Worst result	21.49%	21.27%	23.28%	22.09%	19.61%
Responses	3259	3920	3612	2828	3919

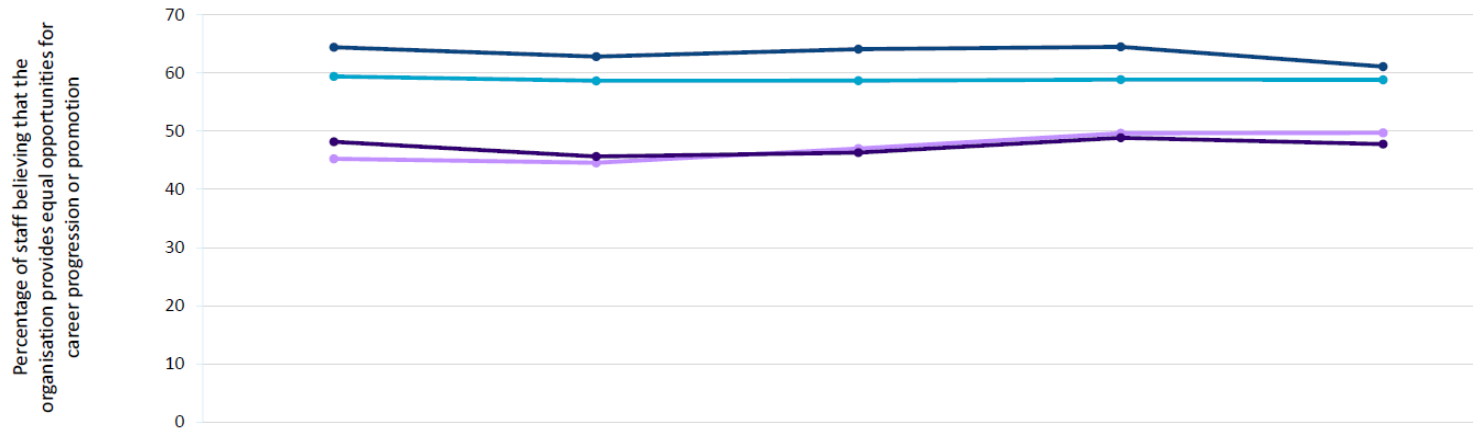
Metric 6 - The percentage of staff who experienced harassment, bullying or abuse from other staff in the last 12 months



	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Your org	1.17%	2.02%	1.88%	1.86%	2.69%
Best result	0.06%	0.57%	0.75%	0.65%	0.53%
Average result	1.37%	1.59%	1.84%	1.78%	1.88%
Worst result	4.88%	3.98%	5.45%	3.88%	6.08%
Responses	3222	3843	3559	2778	3791

Metric 7 - The percentage of staff who believed that the trust provided equal opportunities for career progression or promotion

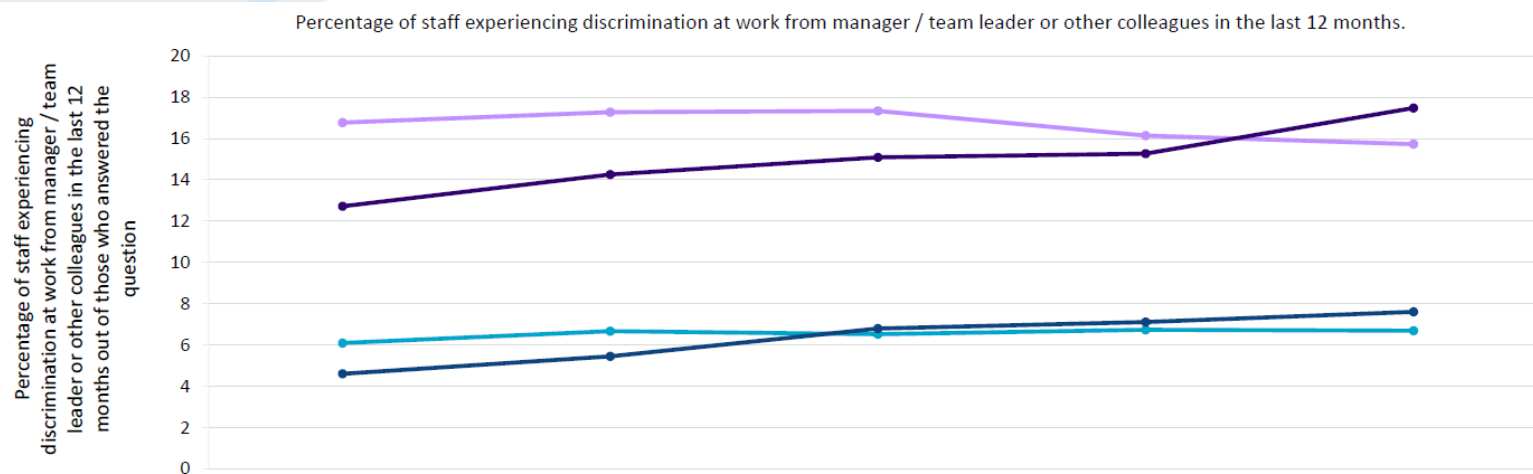
Percentage of staff believing that the organisation provides equal opportunities for career progression or promotion.



	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
White staff: Your org	64.38%	62.80%	64.09%	64.47%	61.08%
All other ethnic groups*: Your org	48.16%	45.63%	46.30%	48.86%	47.77%
White staff: Average	59.39%	58.64%	58.65%	58.84%	58.82%
All other ethnic groups*: Average	45.24%	44.56%	47.00%	49.64%	49.70%
White staff: Responses	2409	2839	2573	2232	2749
All other ethnic groups*: Responses	762	927	905	700	1099

*Staff from all other ethnic groups combined

Metric 8 - The percentage of staff who personally experienced discrimination at work from a manager, team leader or other colleagues



	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
White staff: Your org	4.60%	5.45%	6.80%	7.11%	7.60%
All other ethnic groups*: Your org	12.72%	14.26%	15.09%	15.26%	17.47%
White staff: Average	6.09%	6.67%	6.52%	6.73%	6.69%
All other ethnic groups*: Average	16.77%	17.28%	17.33%	16.14%	15.72%
White staff: Responses	2391	2863	2604	2236	2736
All other ethnic groups*: Responses	755	940	908	701	1093

*Staff from all other ethnic groups combined

Conclusion and Action planning

Our vision is “To deliver exceptional care together to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities”. We intend to build on and uphold our pledge to become a more inclusive Trust. The Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Workforce Journey provides a framework to support the delivery of this vision.

The Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Journey is integral to our organisational ‘Shaping #Our Future Strategy’ and covers three years from 2023-2025 and identifies six core workforce priorities with key actions anchored in the employee life cycle. We reflect on national and regional workforce equality and inclusion strategies and priorities, including The Race Equality Code.

The EDI Journey is aligned with the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) compliance requirements under the Equality Act 2010. Taking into account national compliance drivers:

- Equality Delivery Systems (EDS)
- Work Race Equality Standard (WRES)
- Work Disability Equality Standard (WDES)
- Accessible Information Standard (AIS)
- Sexual Orientation Monitoring Standard (SOMS)
- Gender Pay Gap (GPG)