**Date issued:** 3rd of August 2023

**Freedom of Information Request** 131/23

We are writing in response to your Freedom of Information request. Your request has been considered in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act and our Data and Information Management Policy.

**YOU ASKED US…**

**1. Please can you advise if you currently supply front line public facing staff within your service a Swabbing Kit for Forensic DNA Analysis to use if they are assaulted (for example spat at, have blood/ bodily fluids thrown at them) by a member of the public/ service user?**

**An example of such kit is here -** [**https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.spservices.co.uk%2Fitem%2FSwabbingKitforForensicDNAAnalysis\_102\_0\_6331\_1.html&data=05%7C01%7CFreedomofinformation%40tfw.wales%7C8452f6cac6524025386008db802c2f48%7C87dcd024301948269956ba76b2a04ff4%7C0%7C0%7C638244699487076149%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=2R1bDP5ZCb74K%2BrrBUhSKcfWNNtZtc7pFaGOEX0C0u4%3D&reserved=0**](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.spservices.co.uk%2Fitem%2FSwabbingKitforForensicDNAAnalysis_102_0_6331_1.html&data=05%7C01%7CFreedomofinformation%40tfw.wales%7C8452f6cac6524025386008db802c2f48%7C87dcd024301948269956ba76b2a04ff4%7C0%7C0%7C638244699487076149%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=2R1bDP5ZCb74K%2BrrBUhSKcfWNNtZtc7pFaGOEX0C0u4%3D&reserved=0)

**2. If you do, please can you provide any information such as policies, procedures or guidance issued to staff relating to the use them?**

**3. Please can you provide the number of assaults on staff where they have been spat at or have blood/ bodily fluids thrown at them for the calendar years 2021 and 2022.**

**RESPONSE**

Question 1

Transport for Wales do supply “spit kits” to frontline staff.

Question 2

Please see the attached video that we show in Conductor and Stations training, the video shows trainees how to use the kits. We also talk about them in a more generalised way in our Booking On session for Trainee Conductors when talking about our kit bags and how to replenish used/out of date equipment.

Also attached is a copy of the briefing notes used.

Question 3

We had 18 instances of assaults involving spit in 2021 and 2022. There were 7 in 2021 and 11 in 2022.

We hope this information is of use to you.

Yours sincerely,

**Transport for Wales**

**Appeal Rights**

If you are unhappy with the way your request has been handled and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, please write to the Head of Freedom of Information at either Transport for Wales, 3 Llys Cdwyn, Pontypridd, CF37 4TH or freedomofinformation@tfw.wales. Your request must be submitted within 40 working days of receipt of this letter. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

The Information Commissioner (ICO) can be contacted at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or you can contact the ICO through the 'Make a Complaint' section of their website on this link: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>

The relevant section to select will be "Official or Public Information".