

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 21-343

28 June 2021

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

- We can confirm that we do hold the information you are requesting

a) How many operations in total has your Trust cancelled from 1 March 2020 - 1 March 2021 and can you give a breakdown of reasons for the cancellations? How many were urgent operations?

Breakdown of reasons	
Hosp Canc - No Beds Available	465
Hosp Canc - Booking Error	175
Hosp Canc - Other Emergency Patient Prioritised	128
Hosp Canc - Equipment Failure	88
Hosp Canc - Lack of staff due to Covid-19	84
Hosp Canc - AM list over-ran	77
Hosp Canc - Surgeon Unavailable	51
Hosp Canc - No HDU Beds	30
Hosp Canc - Surgeon Taken Ill	24
Hosp Canc - No Ward Staff	24
Hosp Canc - No Theatre Staff	22
Hosp Canc - Equipment Unavailable	20
Hosp Canc - No CICU Beds	19
Hosp Canc - Other clinically complicated Patient in theatre	17
Hosp Canc - Theatre Repairs required	16
Hosp Canc - Op Brought Forward	13
Hosp Canc - List Overbooked	18
Hosp Canc - List did not start on time	12
Hosp Canc - Other Non-Emergency Patient Prioritised	12
Hosp Canc - PAS-only Error	12
Other hospital cancellation reasons	74
Wrong Pre Op guidelines given	*

Admin errors on the day	*
Pt unfit (Acute)	12
Pt unfit (Pre-existing)	6
Op not required	*
Further investigation required	*
Infection Risk	*
Pre Op Guidelines not followed	6
Pt unwell on day of Op	*
Pt cancelled as appointment inconvenient	*
DNA's	*
Pt declined Surgery	*
Unknown	*

How many were urgent operations?	849
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Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by *. Due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. (Section 40 is the exemption for personal information).

b) How many operations in total has your Trust cancelled from 1 March 2019 - 28 February 2020 and can you give a breakdown of reasons for the cancellations? How many were urgent operations?

Breakdown of reasons	
Hosp Canc - No Beds Available	1850
Hosp Canc - Booking Error	272
Hosp Canc - Other Emergency Patient Prioritised	245
Hosp Canc - AM list over-ran	122
Hosp Canc - No HDU Beds	112
Hosp Canc - Equipment Failure	94
Hosp Canc - Surgeon Unavailable	90
Hosp Canc - No Theatre Staff	77
Hosp Canc - Other clinically complicated Patient in theatre	65
Hosp Canc - Surgeon Taken Ill	50
Hosp Canc - Other Non-Emergency Patient Prioritised	39
Hosp Canc - Equipment Unavailable	33
Hosp Canc - No ITU Beds	33
Hosp Canc - List Overbooked	31
Hosp Canc - Technician Not Available	23
Hosp Canc - Infection	20
Hosp Canc - List did not start on time	19
Hosp Canc – Anesthetist Unavailable	19

Hosp Canc - No CICU Beds	15
Hosp Canc - Anesthetist Ill	12
Other hospital cancellation reasons	66

How many were urgent operations?	2228
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c) How many operations in total has your trust cancelled for Under 16s from 1 March 2020 - 1 March 2021 and can you give a breakdown of reasons for the cancellations? How many were urgent operations?

Breakdown of reasons	
Hosp Canc - Equipment Failure	40
Hosp Canc - Booking Error	26
Hosp Canc - Other Emergency Patient Prioritised	23
Hosp Canc - AM list over-ran	19
Hosp Canc - Lack of staff due to Covid-19	14
Hosp Canc - Theatre Repairs required	12
Hosp Canc - No Ward Staff	10
Hosp Canc - No Theatre Staff	7
Hosp Canc - Equipment Unavailable	6
Hosp Canc - No HDU Beds	*
Hosp Canc - No ITU Beds	*
Hosp Canc - List did not start on time	*
Hosp Canc - Surgeon Unavailable	*
Hosp Canc - No Beds Available	*
Hosp Canc - Op Brought Forward	*
Other hospital cancellation reasons	11

How many were urgent operations?	57
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Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by *. Due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. (Section 40 is the exemption for personal information).

d) How many operations in total has your trust cancelled for Under 16s from 1 March 2019 - 28 February 2020 and can you give a breakdown of reasons for the cancellations? How many were urgent operations?

Breakdown of reasons	
Hosp Canc - Other Emergency Patient Prioritised	52
Hosp Canc - No Beds Available	31
Hosp Canc - Booking Error	30

Hosp Canc - No Theatre Staff	17
Hosp Canc - No ITU Beds	14
Hosp Canc - Surgeon Unavailable	11
Hosp Canc - No HDU Beds	10
Hosp Canc - Equipment Failure	8
Hosp Canc - AM list over-ran	8
Hosp Canc - Equipment Unavailable	7
Hosp Canc - Other clinically complicated Patient in theatre	6
Hosp Canc - Other Non-Emergency Patient Prioritised	*
Hosp Canc - Anesthetist Unavailable	*
Hosp Canc - Anesthetist Ill	*
Hosp Canc - List Overbooked	*
Other hospital cancellation reasons	12

How many were urgent operations?	25
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Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by *. Due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. (Section 40 is the exemption for personal information).

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Director of Corporate Governance
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

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 can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust