

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 24-885

29 November 2024

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

Under the FOI Act, I would like to request the number of operations cancelled by the trust for non-clinical reasons in each financial year between 2018/19 and the latest available data in 2024/25 broken down by reason for cancellation.

This may include, but not be limited to: Capacity issues, emergencies, staff shortages, clinical need, patient request, equipment failure or administrative error.

We are able to obtain this information however we have decided to apply Section 21 of the FOIA as this information is reasonably accessible in the public domain on the Trust's website on the following links:

https://www.uhbw.nhs.uk/assets/1/23-072_response.pdf.

https://www.uhbw.nhs.uk/assets/1/23-072_data.pdf

[24-444_response.pdf](#)

For 2024/2025 please see below:

Cancellation reason	2024/2025
AM list over-ran	0
Booking Error	0
Equipment Failure	0
Equipment Unavailable	0

HOSP NC - Booking Error	62
HOSP NC - Equipment Failure	46
HOSP NC - Equipment Unavailable	34
HOSP NC - Industrial Action	0
HOSP NC - No Anaesthetist	23
HOSP NC - No Critical Care Bed	7
HOSP NC - No Critical Care Staff	*
HOSP NC - No Lab Staff	*
HOSP NC - No Surgeon	137
HOSP NC - No Theatre Staff	49
HOSP NC - No Ward Bed	279
HOSP NC - Ran Out of Operating Time	170
HOSP NC - Rescheduled / Postponed	307
HOSP NC - Theatre Failure / Repairs	19

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. This follows NHS Digital (formerly HSCIC) analysis guidance (2014) which states that small numbers within local authorities, wards, postcode districts, providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

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:

Data Protection Officer
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