

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 7966

**Please reply to:**  
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14 March 2023

### Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to cancelled children's operations.

*You asked: All questions are shown as received by the Trust.*

- 1. The number of children (under 18s) who have an operation cancelled or delayed at your trust for non-clinical reasons, in each of the past five calendar years (2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018).*
- 2. For each of these years, please could you provide figures broken down by the reason behind the cancellation or delay, e.g. lack of staff, lack of bed capacity, or lack of equipment.*
- 3. Please could you provide figures on the five longest waits for an operation currently faced by under-18s at your trust, e.g. 118 days, 116 days, 113 days. For each of these waits, please could you provide a summary of the surgical procedure in question, e.g. heart surgery.*

Trust response:

Q1 & Q2: This data is based on the data which is submitted on the national QMCO return for children under the age of 18 years:

Cancellation Reason	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bed Availability (Inc; bed/room being cleaned)	6	1	2		1
Cancelled COVID19 / Theatre Closures				3	4
Emergency Added/Interrupting/Delaying List	1			1	
Hospital Cancel Pre-Admission Date - Administrative Error	4	1	1	1	1
Hospital Cancel Pre-Admission Date - No Ward Beds Available		7	2	15	
Hospital Cancel Pre-Admission Date - PCT Decision				1	
Hospital Cancel-management decision	4	6	5	12	4
Lack of Time - Hosp Cancel	1	2	2		
Major Incident/Adverse Weather			5		
No Anaesthetist				3	1

No Surgeon	4		1		1
No Theatre/Recovery Staff / No Radiographer operation brought forward		1			1
Patient Not Ready	3	2			
Previous Patient Still in Theatre			3		
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>13</b>

3.

SPECIALTY_NAME	Age band	Wait in Days
PAEDIATRIC OPHTHALMOLOGY	0-15	324
PAEDIATRIC TRAUMA & ORTHOPAEDICS	16-17	294
PAEDIATRIC TRAUMA & ORTHOPAEDICS	0-15	289
UROLOGY	0-15	288
PAEDIATRIC TRAUMA & ORTHOPAEDICS	0-15	282

Further more detailed information will not be released as this may enable the patient to be identified.